

the chronicle

Evacuees tell pupils about life during wartime

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Paralysed artist fulfils dream of seeing his photographs on show

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Brewery to fight over rejection of bike park

BRIERLEY Hill-based Bathams Brewery has appeal against a decision to reject plans for an electric bike park near Kinvor Edge following an outcry from residents.

South Staffordshire District Council rejected plans last August but Bathams, which owns the land at Compton Worwood Farm, Beacon Lane, has launched an appeal with the Planning Inspectorate.

Planners said the scheme, which would be the first of its kind in the country, was an unsuitable development in the green belt. But brewery owner Tim Batham said: "Electric bikes make no noise, create no emissions and cause no pollution."

"They are the bikes of the future that we can bring here right now, bikes with no environmental impact, and no noise nuisance to anyone."

Residents are angry the plans have reappeared and say they are determined to defeat them.

Margaret Knott, who walks her son's golden retriever dogs in the area known as Sheepwalks every day. Mrs Knott, aged 67, of Newfield Drive, Kingswinford, said: "It is like being in heaven, the peace and tranquility is wonderful."

A campaign website has already attracted more than 200 people.

Leanne settles for £4,000 deal

A DUDLEY support worker's dreams of pocketing the £250,000 jackpot on TV game show Deal or No Deal ended with her taking home just £4,000. Leanne Barratt settled for that offer from the banker, but her box contained £35,000.

Despite the loss, Miss Barratt, who cares for adults with learning difficulties, said: "I'm just completely over the moon." The mother of twins Rebecca and Jessica was watched in the audience at Channel 4 last week by fiancé Adam Dolson.

School wants new classrooms for art

THE Kingswinford School wants to build two arts classrooms to house expressive arts lessons.

Bosses at the Water Street site said pupil numbers will not increase but the development will give the department its own space rather than sharing with other subjects. Trees and a hedge will screen neighbouring houses. Planners will make a decision in the coming weeks.

More empty shops

THE number of empty shops in Dudley borough is rising with around 17 per cent vacant in Brierley Hill, 20 per cent in Dudley, eight per cent in Stourbridge and four per cent in Halesowen, according to the Local Data Company.



Dudley Hospital Radio programme controller Steve Welch, receives a cheque for £500 from Dudley Lions members, from left: Ray McGuirk and John and Anita Bowen

Hospital radio gets a Lions' share

VOLUNTEERS in Dudley are celebrating raising more than £2,000 for local hospitals through their fundraising activities.

Dudley Hospital Radio and Birmingham Children's Hospital have both received windfalls thanks to the fundraising efforts of members of Dudley Lions.

It made its bumper donations after a year collecting cash through raffles, fetes and table top sales.

A cheque for £1,500 was presented to a representative from Birmingham Children's Hospital at one of the group's regular meetings at the Ward Arms Hotel in Dudley. And a £500 cheque for

Dudley Hospital Radio was presented live on air at their Russells Hall Hospital base last Wednesday.

Adrian Baillie, chair of Dudley Hospital Radio, said: "Our team of volunteers are so grateful to Dudley Lions for their fundraising which will buy essential equipment to help to keep our station on the air. "This fantastic generosity gives us all such a boost."

Anita Bowen, former president of Dudley Lions, added: "Our volunteers had a great time raising money to donate to such worthwhile causes."

"We know that Birmingham Children's Hospital will put our

money to good use and are delighted that our local hospital radio can continue to flourish with our support."

Dudley Lions has named Brain Tumour UK as its 2011 charity and hopes to raise more cash to support essential research at Wolverhampton University.

The group will continue to support the British Legion Poppy Appeal and the Marie Curie Daffodil fund for which it collectively raised more than £1,500 through supermarket collections last year.

To volunteer with Dudley Lions or to make a donation contact the club on 0845 833 4978.

LOOSE HORSES DELAY 999 CALL

STRAY horses causing havoc on the streets of Dudley are believed to have been released deliberately. Problems with the wandering animals have been escalating throughout the town over the past few months.

In the latest incident, on Monday, fire fighters rushing to a car crash were forced to slam on the brakes when the horses wandered into the road in front of them. The crew, from Brierley Hill Fire Station, had blue lights flashing and had to use the fire engine's horn to get the horses to move.

Officers said they had only narrowly avoided hitting some of the horses.

The crew had been called to a minor collision in Brierley Hill Road. Fire fighter Kevin Baugh said: "We nearly crashed into some of them. We were going along John Street with lights flashing on our way to an accident."

"They just wandered out into the road. We had to slam on the brakes quickly. If we had collided with them it would have been a bit of a mess."

There have been complaints of scores of horses roaming around streets, trampling gardens and posing a danger to motorists.

Dudley Council has been plagued by the problem for the past two decades. Last month it received 400 calls about stray horses alone.

It is holding talks with police and the RSPCA on how best to deal with the situation and has promised a solution is in the pipeline.

John Millar, director of urban environment at the council, said: "We suspect the horses currently on the streets and on open ground may have been deliberately released."

"In law, horse owners are primarily liable for damage or injury caused by a stray horse and case law backs this up. However, the owner is often impossible to trace as seems to be the case with the current strays."

"We do not have a reactive round-up service and we currently use a very experienced bailliff to carry out selective impoundments of

By Sarah Hazelwood

stray horses on council owned land following the posting of warning notices.

"We are continuing to work closely with the police on an effective means of dealing with the current strays sighted within the borough and we will also attempt to engage with known horse owners with the aim of reaching a workable solution that has proper regard to both public safety and the welfare of the horses themselves."

The authority last rounded up horses from the streets in 2002 and it is feared a new blitz could cost £300,000 a year.

At the start of this month officers issued 32 notices, warning owners they had 24 hours to move the horses or they would be impounded.

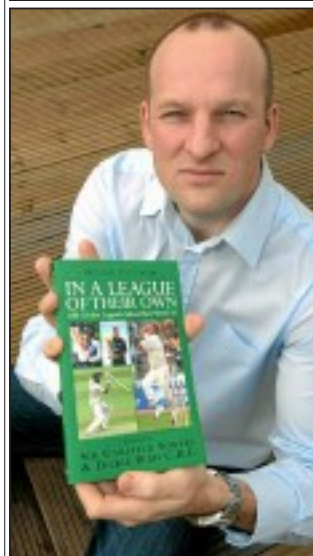
Battled

Previous incidents have seen the animals roaming around the Russells Hall estate and along the Pensnett Road, near to Russells Hall Hospital itself and along Wellington Road, Dudley near to the leisure centre.

The horses have also battled some of Dudley's busiest roads and were seen eating grass on the traffic island on Dudley Road, near to the fire station, while another three were spotted walking down John Street.

A clampdown on illegal grazing was introduced in 2009.

Cricket selection proves sticky wicket



Richard Sydenham with his new cricket book

AN AUTHOR from Cradley Heath has been on a 15-year mission to find the world's greatest cricket XI. Richard Sydenham has travelled the world asking 100 legends of the game for their best XI, which he has published in a book *In A League Of Their Own*.

From the results he has produced an all-time world XI. He had planned to release the book at the turn of the century, but underestimated the work involved.

The 36-year-old, from Barrs Road, said: "The debate created when people are asked for their World XI is huge. Many legends simply couldn't choose theirs."

"It was painstaking work at times, but it was worth it in the end."

The most popular choice, West Indies all-rounder Sir Gary Sobers, racked up votes from 73 out of the players. He declined to choose his team, but has written a foreword for the book, along with legendary umpire Dickie Bird.

Mr Sydenham, who is also a freelance journalist, supported Warwickshire as a child and has fond memories of getting autographs from many of the legends in the list, including Ian Botham, Sir Richard Hadlee and

By Jon Pritchard

Michael Holding.

He said: "Many cricket fans will have often been asked who their best XI would be. The aim of the book was to bring this sort of 'pub chat' into book form."

The book asked the contributors to name their best XI and include a short paragraph about each player explaining why they picked them.

Selected

Mr Sydenham said: "With 100 of the greatest ever cricketers making their personal selections, it's hard to argue against them."

The only local player in the list is Smethwick-born fast-bowler Sydney Barnes, who is the only player ever to be selected for England while playing league cricket.

In *A League Of Their Own* is published by DP Publishing at £9.99.

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Penguins
for pupils

STUDENTS from a Stourbridge school have been learning about conservation work on a visit to Dudley Zoo.

Fifty-two pupils, aged 10 and 11, from Wollescote Primary School attended an hour-long lecture to learn how zoos work together to save endangered species.

The children saw the results of the zoo's conservation projects.

Senior curator Derek Grove said: "One example is our work with South American Humboldt penguins which has won us an award from The British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums."

Crackdown ordered
as stray horses roam

STRAY and illegally tethered horses in Sandwell could be seized by the council for the first time in nine years after more than 50 were spotted in Tipton.

The authority last rounded up horses from the streets in 2002 and a new blitz could cost £300,000 a year.

Officers issued 32 notices over the weekend of February 5-6, warning owners they had 24 hours to move the horses or they would be impounded. But council

bosses said horse owners were getting around the issue by crossing borough boundaries into Walsall, Dudley and Wolverhampton. Sandwell's neighbourhoods chief, Councillor Derek Rowley, said: "It could cost £300,000 a year of taxpayers' money."

Treatment

"The last time we used bailiffs to remove horses from the streets of Tipton it cost us in the region of £25,000 a month. This pays for the horses to be checked by a vet, given any treatment

they need, transported to stables and cared for, as well as the bailiffs' costs.

"If they are not claimed then they are sold off, but this is just a drop in the ocean compared to the bills.

"The main issue we have is that many of the horses are kept on the Wednesbury Oak estate and owners literally have to move them just a few feet and they are over the border in Wolverhampton.

"When they are moved on from there, they are moved back to Tipton and the whole process starts again," Councillor Rowley said.

Invites by
library to
families
of readers

A NEW reading group at Lye library has its second meeting this weekend.

The next session, which will be themed around animals, will take place on Saturday, February 19, from 11am until noon. The aim is to encourage families, including parents or carers and children aged four and over, to get together and read.

Call Lye Library on 01384 812835 or visit www.dudley.gov.uk/libraries for details.

Prison for thug who
battered woman, 84

A THUG who broke an 84-year old's nose and wrist after she commented on his "stupid" attack on a Dudley phone box has been jailed for eight months.

Mustafa Shafi, aged 32, launched a torrent of abuse and charged the pensioner in the back after overhearing her remark to a friend about him smashing the telephone receiver against the glass and swearing.

Shafi sent her crashing head first into a shop doorway at Cinder Bank, Netherton, after she passed close by the phone box and commented, said Miss Kate Thomas, prosecuting at Wolverhampton Crown Court.

She also suffered a gashed forehead and two black eyes in the June 19 attack. The woman said in a victim impact statement: "Physically I am not the same and never will

be after this. I have lost the strength of my left hand and can no longer use it to pick up a saucepan or wash bag. Sometimes the pain keeps me awake at night and I have to take painkillers every day.

"I rarely go out alone now, whereas I used to go out to the shops by myself. I am worried when passing groups of young men."

Medication

"But I am a strong-willed person and shall try to put this behind me," the statement concluded.

Shafi, of Swan Street, Netherton, was arrested three weeks after the attack. He told police the pensioner "invaded his space."

Mr Jason Aris, defending, said Shafi was now taking medication to control mental problems.

Switch to Father's Day
for fair sparks backlash

RESTAURANT and club bosses in Kinver are seething after the village's biggest community event was moved to Father's Day. They claim it will kill trade on one of their busiest days.

Kinver Country Fair's new steering committee has sparked controversy after deciding to break with tradition and stage this year's event on a Sunday. The only date which does not conflict with events in neighbouring towns or bank holidays is June 19, which is Father's Day this year. The fair has been held on the first Saturday in May in the past.

Restaurants, cafes and clubs in the village are protesting against the change claiming it will cause disruption to their normally busy Father's Day trade.

Henry Williams, of Kinver Constitutional Club, said the date change had not taken into account the impact on some businesses in the village.

Disruption

"Restaurants and pubs in the village are well-used on Father's Day by families celebrating the occasion. It is actually one of their busiest days."

"But with roads around the village closed for this event and the sheer numbers in the village these people are not going to come in. They will go somewhere else instead to celebrate."

"We cannot see the same level of trade coming from the fair which will be on fields in the village. People who just want to come out for a quiet meal or drink will simply avoid Kinver. It will be a massive disruption to our trade."

Mr Williams hoped they would be able to convince the steering committee to change the date from June 19.

Firm fined on
wage blunder

A STOURBRIDGE firm has been fined £400 with £150 costs by Dudley magistrates for failing to deduct child support from a worker's wages.

RAM Express Ltd, of Bridgnorth Road, admitted four charges of failing to comply with a court order to deduct money from Jason Worth's earnings over four months.

Mr Gerry Vahey, defending, told the court that the task had been left in the hands of an "incompetent" employee.

Still smitten after seven decades



Frank Ledington and his bride Joan on their wedding day at Wordsley Church in February 1941



Frank, 92, and his wife Joan, 90

WHILE fighting for his country in Burma, Frank Ledington got through the days by thinking of his new bride and the baby daughter he had never met back home in the Black Country.

Now the 92-year-old and his devoted wife Joan, 90, of Brockmoor, Brierley Hill, are celebrating their platinum wedding anniversary after seven decades of married bliss.

Their lasting love has never faltered despite them being forced to spend five years apart while Frank fought in the Second World War with the Royal Welch Fusiliers. The



Joan when she was just 17

couple, who say they have never had an argument, have two children, five grand-children and 12 great-grand-children.

It was love at first sight for the pair who met by chance in Brierley Hill High Street in 1936. They were engaged for five years before marrying at Wordsley Church on February 8, 1941.

Wonderful

A year later, Frank was posted to Burma when Joan was expecting their first child.

Daughter Valerie was born shortly after he left and Frank did not see her



Soldier Frank in Burma in 1942

until he returned when she was five.

"This beautiful little girl came up to me and told me I was her daddy - it was a wonderful moment," Frank said.

After seven years in the Army Frank, a pigeon fancier and former paperboy, worked as a welder at Brockmoor Foundry.

Joan had a job at Stuart Crystal as a glass polisher, and later on the assembly line at Stourbridge record changer manufacturer BSR.

The couple said they were as much in love today as on their wedding day.

Joan said: "We have always looked after each other."

Apology
calls by
£11,000
row man

A CARER who lost out on £11,500 when Sandwell Council U-turned on a grant application is demanding a formal apology.

Des Brown, of Tipton, was promised the cash to look after his severely disabled wife Sharon.

The council cancelled the grant on October 1 - the day the money was due to go into Mr Brown's account.

Officers said he should not have been offered it in the first place because he was not eligible.

The 62-year-old, of High Street, says he had budgeted for the sum and has found himself out of pocket as a result of the blunder.

Sandwell Council says expenses incurred will be reimbursed, as long as he provides evidence.

Diabetes

Mr Brown said: "The council has caused us endless heartache."

"That money would have helped me care for my wife and our home while allowing me to provide some extra assistance when taking her to hospital appointments."

Mrs Brown suffers with deafness, asthma, diabetes and a hip problem.

The council's cabinet member for adult care, Councillor Linda Horton, said the authority had apologised to Mr Brown.

She said: "We are waiting for Mr Brown to provide the council with evidence of payments he has made for his wife's care, which we feel is a reasonable thing to do."

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School caterers taste success in vital exam



Catering manager Ceri Ward, front, with, catering staff Pauline Aston, left, Lynne Wright, Gwendoline Jukes and RSA Academy kitchen colleagues

CATERING staff at a Tipton school can now boast of becoming the cream of the crop.

The 15-strong team at the RSA Academy, in Bilston Road, have all passed GNVQs for cooking food from scratch, good hygiene and hospitality.

The team of women, all recruited locally, have graduated from reheating prepared food to cooking meals with vegetables grown by pupils at the school, baking fresh bread and ensuring that children have a balanced diet.

Twizzlers

Lesley James, director of business development at the academy, said: "We've been training these ladies to work in our catering kitchen and we're so proud of them."

"They've been doing assessment and coursework to show they can cook fresh food, day in, day out, and they have all successfully passed their GNVQs."

"We don't buy anything in - it's a far cry from Jamie Oliver's campaign to stop turkey twizzlers and chips in schools. They bake bread, cook chillies, curries and pies from scratch."

Stink over pet mess in parks

DOG mess has been building up in Sandwell beauty spots because the worker with "unequalled knowledge" in collecting the dirt bins has been off sick.

Serco, which took over responsibility for waste collections from Sandwell Council last year, has been criticised for allowing dog dirt to pile up.

The number of dog bin collections in the borough has fallen after a worker who used to collect them was injured in a crash.

Parks affected include Langley Park, Corngreaves Nature Reserve and Haden Hill Park.

Carol Chambers, aged 63, of Brookfield Road, Langley, said: "I take my dogs to Langley Park every day. The dog bins have not been emptied, and it is disgusting."

"It has been like this for at least five weeks."

Serco's Adam Fergie said: "Our team member who has been responsible for the borough's dog bins for many years was injured in a minor vehicle accident and took some time off."

"He has an unequalled knowledge of his job."

"We have also put in place additional resources to cover future absences."

Temps bill tops £5m as council cuts jobs

MORE than £5 million was spent on hundreds of temporary workers by Sandwell Council in 12 months.

The council, which is battling to save £75m over the next four years, brought in scores of temps to help keep services going.

The high-pressure social care departments had the highest number of temporary staff, figures for the last financial year show.

During 2009-10 the council spent more than £2.4m in the adults and

communities department on agency staff and more than £1.3m in the children and young people section.

The agency charges in urban regeneration were more than £817,000 and in corporate services more than £548,000.

Vulnerable

Councillor Mahboob Hussain, cabinet member for improvement and efficiency, said: "I expect spending on temporary staff to fall significantly."

"We took the decision - with the council undergoing

a major restructure and knowing that cuts would be coming down the line - not to permanently fill posts, to avoid having to pay out for those redundancies now."

"Now the council's new structure is taking shape, the amount spent on temporary staff will come down."

"Like all organisations, we do need to employ temporary staff for certain circumstances in order to keep essential services running."

"And this has been the case in areas such as social care for vulnerable older people and children."

Transport's key role for region's bosses

TRANSPORT and planning are two of the key areas the new Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership aims to tackle, business leaders have been told.

At the annual meeting of the Black Country Chamber of Commerce, LEP chairman Stewart Towse said proposals were already being drawn up for changes in the planning system to make it easier to set up a business.

Mr Towse, boss of Hadley Industries, said: "The plan-

ning system is a massive barrier to anyone who wishes to start anything from a small business to a major development."

"It's bureaucratic, it's too expensive, it takes too long and it's predicated on the basis of telling you what you can't do rather than what you can."

Effective

"We'll look at practicalities of planning applications and how the system can be more effective."

He said John McDonough, chief executive of

Carillion and a member of the LEP board, was putting a briefing paper together for a submission to Government about changes in the Black Country.

Speaking to 130 businesses at the chamber event held at The Public, in West Bromwich, Mr Towse said the LEP would also aim to improve transport.

"Road space is for the use of all the road users and should not be prioritised to any one particular section."

"That doesn't mean we are anti-public transport, we're pro-public transport."

Labour protest as rent charges soar by 6.7pc

A RENT increase of an average 6.7 per cent for thousands of tenants in Dudley will come into force on April 4, it has been confirmed. The biggest increase in almost a decade for the people who live in the borough's 24,000 council homes was approved at a Dudley Council cabinet meeting last week.

The increases range from £3.37 to £5.50 a week, with the average increase equivalent to £4.52. The move is expected to bring in £5.2 million, but Dudley Council will be allowed to keep only £1.4m, with the rest going to the Treasury.

Council leaders say the increase had to be calculated using central Government's formula based on inflation and the size and value of council properties.

The Conservative housing chief, Councillor David Simms, said he had written to the minister to express his concerns. He said the Government wanted to align council house rents with rents charged by social landlords such as housing associations by 2015-16.

Currently, rent for a three bedroom semi in Dudley with a social landlord is around £20 higher than the equivalent council house rent.

For the opposition Labour group, Councillor Shaikat Ali said: "Can I express our concern in relation to the rent increase of nearly seven per cent at this difficult time and the significant impact that is going to have on tenants?"

Standards

Other increases given the go ahead during the cabinet meeting last Wednesday include service charges at the council's 344 sheltered housing schemes, which are set to rise by 10 per cent to a new weekly charge of £9.78.

Laundry tokens for residents living in high-rise flats will be increased by 4.6 per cent to £1.90, it was decided.

The cabinet was told that there are currently 93 council houses in the borough which are empty and would cost more than £10,000 to bring up to liveable standards.

Councillor Simms said a review was currently taking place to try and get them brought back into use.

Viewers caught without licence

MORE than 220 television viewers in Rowley Regis and a further 130 in Cradley Heath were caught without a licence in 2010. According to the latest figures from TV Licensing, the total figure for the year in Sandwell borough exceeded 3,200. More than 630 evaders were caught in West Bromwich, more than 600 in Smethwick, more than 600 in Oldbury, more than 550 in Tipton and, more than 450 in Wednesbury.

£75,000 revamp of tennis courts

A MAJOR overhaul of tennis courts in Sandwell Valley has begun.

Under the £75,000 plans, the four concrete courts will be resurfaced with artificial grass.

It is hoped that once work is completed, courts in Sandwell Valley can also be used for football and hockey.

Cash for work is coming from funds provided by developers to improve facilities in the area.

The project was due to start last autumn but was delayed after a play barn project, also planned for Sandwell Valley, collapsed due to funding problems.

John Satchwell, of Sandwell Council's parks and countryside department, said: "When it became clear that the funding wasn't going to be available for the £800,000 play barn project we decided to hold fire on the redevelopment of the tennis courts for a while."

"We now want to move forward to put down the synthetic surfaces to provide all weather courts, set to be predominantly used for tennis and football."

"The first part of work will see the chain link fence pulled down, followed by excavation of the surface."

Friends tell of war evacuation



Pupils Emma Gardener, aged nine, and James Garrington, seven, with World War Two evacuees Barry Fletcher and Harry Spalding

TWO Second World War evacuees took youngsters back to the days of ration books and gas masks when they visited a Dudley school.

Pals Barry Fletcher and Harry Spalding were invited to Netherton CofE Primary School to give a talk about being evacuated from Station Road Board School, in Birmingham, to Feckenham in Worcestershire in September 1939.

Mr Fletcher, aged 80, a retired training manager from Sutton Coldfield, said: "It was sad to leave home, but I was sent to the same house as Harry and we ended up like brothers."

Ex-postmaster Mr Spalding, 81, of Barton-under-Needwood, said: "It was only supposed to be a weekend trial but I stayed away from home for three years."

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Men of steel recall plant's glory days

AN ICONIC Brierley Hill foundry which employed thousands of workers at its height is being celebrated in a new exhibition of photographs and paintings.

The display tells the story of Round Oak Steelworks through pictures and drawings, many created by workers at the plant.

Backed by African drummers, the display was launched by Artspace Dudley at its new premises in Maple Row, Mill Street, Brierley Hill.

It will also offer free arts and crafts classes to residents. The exhibition features photographs taken in and around the foundry during the 1950s along with drawings and paintings by borough artists.

Visitors can also see preliminary drawings of a sculpture set to be installed to commemorate the steelworks being created by Dudley's borough artist Steve Field. The exhibition runs until April.



Promoting the exhibition about Round Oak steelworks are drummer Mike Tinsley, mural artist D.J. and shop manager Edward Cartwright, back

Break offers continue as E&S travel shop closes

THE Star Extra Travel shop in Wolverhampton, has closed.

The shop, located next to the Express & Star's main reception in Queen Street and used by readers for collecting brochures and making bookings, shut on Friday. All other arrangements for customers will stay the same.

Departures will continue to be promoted in the newspaper and the telephone number for brochure requests of 01902 319999 will not change. Readers can continue to book their places by phoning the tour operator once they have read the brochure. The advertisements in the Express &

Star will still point readers to the newspaper's website www.expressandstar.com/starextratravel for further details and readers can make bookings through the website.

In addition a carousel in Express & Star main reception will display brochures. Star Extra Travel staff will also be able to meet customers in reception, on request, to answer queries.

Website

Viv Birch, Midland News Association promotions manager, explained "The shop was set up as Star Readers more than 20 years ago and thousands of people have

used the facility. However more and more customers now book direct with the tour operators.

"Also, many readers access information via the website and make their bookings online with a link through to the respective tour operator."

"Star Extra Travel will continue to offer readers a great range of travel packages in the UK and further afield, using adverts in the newspaper to show what is on offer and customers should continue to phone us for brochures."

"Readers can visit the newspaper website to get more information and make actual bookings."

Work at hall in second phase

THE first phase of restoration work to Sandwell's Grade II-listed Corngreaves Hall has now been completed.

It forms part of a £3 million project to bring the building, dating to 1780, back into use for homes.

The property in Cradley Heath has been empty for the last 60 years, with more than a million pounds of damage caused by vandals, lead thieves and arsonists.

However, it is now being developed into homes by Worcester-based GR8 Space.

Stunning

The work, to refurbish intricate rendering work on the exterior of the building, which began at the site in Corngreaves Road in October, was due to be completed by December. However, sub-zero temperatures and snow put the work back by weeks.

Since then, teams from specialist conservationists Bonsers have been working round-the-clock to complete the project.

Richard Hill of Bonsers said: "Despite a slight delay in the repair work due to bad weather at the end of 2010, we're thrilled with the outcome of this stunning building."

"We're looking forward to working on the next phase of the project - restoring the bottom pillars and gate house walls."

Delight as plan blocked

RESIDENTS are celebrating after controversial plans for an office complex at Hagley Hall were withdrawn at the last minute.

The future of the stately hall is now in doubt after owner Lord Cobham said the development was vital for funds.

The application to build offices for up to 200 workers in the grounds of the hall was recommended for refusal by Bromsgrove District Council's planning committee last week.

Local residents have campaigned against the proposal.

Thief, 30, jailed for string of crimes

A PERSISTENT thief with a "blatant disregard" for property belonging to other people has been jailed.

Farooq Mohammed, aged 30, of Cromwell Drive, Dudley, was sentenced to 24 weeks in prison at Dudley Magistrates Court.

Last week he pleaded guilty to stealing chocolates worth £18, from Iceland in Dudley town centre on Saturday, February 6.

He also pleaded guilty to twice breaching an anti-social behaviour order which preventing him from entering the Market Place, High Street or Churchill precinct.

Licence

Miss Maxine Jarrouse, prosecuting, said staff at Wilkinson's had thrown the shoplifter out of the store just days before he returned to the town centre. He told officers he had stolen to help pay for heroin.

Chairman of magistrates Mr Michael Woodhouse said custody was appropriate due to the string of previous convictions for shoplifting, many of which had been committed while under court orders or licence for other offences.

He told him: "You show a blatant disregard for other people's property"

Father-of-one Mohammed was sentenced to 16 weeks for stealing from Iceland, eight weeks for breaching his Asbo by entering Wilkinson's - to run consecutively - and 16 weeks for the second breach, to run concurrently.

Miss Sabia Pathan, defending, said there had been "a degree of inevitability" about the crime.

Two-month delay over treatment for cancer

ALMOST one in five cancer patients in Dudley have waited more than two-months for treatment after urgent referral, new figures reveal.

Health chiefs are blaming problems at Wolverhampton's New Cross for some of the delays.

Dudley Primary Care Trust, which oversees borough healthcare, is expecting to miss its target for waiting times in 2010-11. Latest figures, from October, show only 83.7 per cent of patients have been referred for treatment or surgery within 62 days, against a target of 85 per cent.

The number in Dudley is below the average for the West Midlands, which is 84.4 per cent. Health chiefs said that some of the delays had been caused by "capacity issues" at New Cross.

However, hospital bosses in Wolverhampton said last week that improve-

ments had been made and targets were met in December and were expected to be reached in January.

A report by Dudley PCT's director of finance, Kevin Gaffney says: "The longer waits are for patients referred to Wolverhampton where there have been capacity issues. The Strategic Health Authority and Wolverhampton PCT are monitoring the situation."

Improve

Dudley PCT chief executive Sarah Dugan said: "Steps have been made to improve on cancer waiting targets and we will continue to monitor these areas to ensure that local patients are getting the best possible care from the providers we commission from."

Samantha Turner, spokeswoman for The Royal Wolverhampton Hospitals NHS Trust, said: "As a Trust we are dedicated to achieving the best possible service for our patients. We are working closely with our partner providers to ensure that patients referred to New Cross are treated as quickly as possible."

She added: "During December the trust was compliant with all of the cancer standards and we are predicting a similar position for January. Our progress against these standards is reviewed on a monthly basis and it is presented to the Trust Board."

Brick threat man is guilty

A MAN who smashed his ex-girlfriend's window with a brick after threatening to hit her with it has been conditionally discharged by Dudley magistrates.

Darrell Fields, aged 24, of Beeches View Avenue, Halesowen, admitted damaging the window in Hampton Close, Quarry Bank, between 11.30pm on Friday and half-past midnight on Saturday.

He was given conditional discharge for 12 months and ordered to pay £150 compensation, with £85 costs.

Miss Maxine Jarrouse, prosecuting, said Fields had threatened to smash his former partner's face in with a brick. Mr Michael Davis, defending, said he was a man of previous good character.

Pupils focus on speedy drivers



Pc Paul Roden shows St Mary's Primary pupils Reece Divine and Kirsten DeLarago how to use a speed camera to stop motorists speeding by their school

YOUNGSTERS have been helping to put the brakes on speeding motorists outside their school in Brierley Hill by creating a questionnaire which will be handed to drivers found flouting the limit.

Pupils at St Mary's CE Primary decided to take action as they were concerned about speeding outside the building in Mill Street.

And police agreed to hand their questionnaire to drivers found breaking the limit in Mill Street. It aims to make motorists think about their actions and youngsters' safety.

Questions include: how would a driver

would feel if they hit a child and were they aware of the speed limit outside the school?

Eight pupils, all members of the school's council, were given the chance to see how police were tackling the issue of speeding on borough roads.

They were shown how to use a mobile hand-held speed camera and helped to clock drivers exceeding the limit by a small amount - around 32mph in the 30mph zone.

Head Anne Maher said: "The children are very proud their questionnaire will be used to help in the fight against speeding."

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Jobs pledge over new waste plant

DOZENS of jobs are set to be created with the building of a multi-million pound waste treatment plant in Sandwell.

A planning application has been submitted to Sandwell Council.

Construction of the Eagle Recovery Transfer Hub, in Hill Top, West Bromwich, will create 95 jobs and 20 for contractors for nearby companies.

Ten people will be needed to run the plant when completed. Bosses have added that the site also has potential to create a further 779 jobs for companies in the region through the provision of additional services and materials. Serco manages Sandwell's £650 million waste contract. The £15

million Hill Top hub includes major alterations to the road systems, including a roundabout at the junction of Bagnall Street and George Henry Road, to replace the entrance to the Eagle Lane Industrial Estate.

The plant will collect and treat household waste from across Sandwell. Included in the plan is a facility to treat paper, glass, cans, plastics and cardboard, along with a composting facility.

There will also be a biological treatment plant for treating any rubbish that cannot be recycled or composted.

Serco also plans to revamp Shidas Lane Household Recycling Centre, Oldbury, with new offices and improved access for vehicles.

Carers to get advice

CARERS of people with long-term conditions are being invited to a new weekly programme at Mary Stevens Hospice, Stourbridge. The six-week course is designed to give carers a chance to share ideas and advice.

Sessions, held every Monday at 10am, will involve problem solving and advice on exercise and diet, while participants will receive a booklet and CD.

Nurse therapist Ruth Davies and occupational Alison Jinks are running the course. "It's about people in the same situation being given a chance to meet each other in a relaxed environment," Ruth said.

The course is free to attend and the first session is this Monday. Call the hospice, which is based on Hagley Road, Oldswinford, on 01384 443010 for details.

Talks with big chain hold key to recovery

INVESTORS are still being sought for a proposed multi-million pound supermarket in Dudley's ailing town centre, more than a year after the plans were first announced.

There were hopes the scheme in Castle Street, Dudley, would be open to the public by 2013. But despite the delays council chiefs insist the scheme will go ahead and say a number of chains are interested.

The project for a 70,000 sq ft store and 400-space car park is still at the design stage and can not go ahead without any investment.

It is hoped the development will kick-start town regeneration and create hundreds of jobs. Deputy council leader Les Jones said firms were in talks with the council over plans for the site but so far no deal has been

struck. The council needs to attract an investor before development can begin.

Under the plans, Dudley Council Plus will move from its current base in Castle Street to new premises in Flood Street, hopefully encouraging more people to visit that part of the town.

Council bosses want to free up the Castle Street site for the supermarket, which will have a 400-space underground car park.

Optimistic

Councillor Jones would not reveal names of the interested chains as he did not want to "jeopardise" talks.

Though he admitted there was "no firm plan" for the site at the moment, he said he was "very optimistic" that an investor would be found.

Closure of road for new campus

A DUDLEY road is closing for 18 months while a former fire station is converted into a multi-million-pound college centre.

Workers have been clearing the site in Tower Street over the last few weeks paving the way for contractors to begin work at the end of this month.

Tower Street will be closed from New Street to The Broadway until August next year.

Over the course of the next 18 months the old fire station will be transformed into a vocational centre by Dudley College to provide training in sport, tourism, public services, beauty and the arts.

Plans for the development, called Dudley Evolve, form part of a £30 million university-style campus scheme in the town centre.

The new building will pay homage to the site's past as the facade of the former fire station will be retained and incorporated in the design.

College principal Lowell Williams said: "It is real relief to see work taking place and it has been a massive effort to get this far."

Ordeal as woman savaged

A WOMAN had to have surgery after a savage attack by a bull terrier as she tried to protect her pet in Dudley.

Police have been trying to trace the animal responsible for the attack on Friday, February 4.

The 61-year-old was walking in George Street, Halesowen, when the terrier attacked. When she intervened to protect her pet, the dog turned on her and she suffered severe wounds to both hands.

Chief Insp Mark Bramwell, of Dudley police, said anyone with information should call 0345 113 5000.

Eau what a trip

STUDENTS from Halesowen College enjoyed the sights and sounds of Cologne during a trip to Germany. Language and sociology students visited Cologne Dome, the Eau de Cologne perfume museum and MMC film studios.

Hunt for down bid dog owner

A DOG owner was seen trying bricks around his pet's neck and trying to drag it into a Dudley reservoir, telling a horrified passer-by "I can't afford the vet bills".

Concerned onlookers called out the RSPCA after witnessing a man apparently trying to drown his alsatian.

One walker, Sara Blakemore, was strolling through the Saltwells Nature Reserve, Netherton, with her labradoodle Mackie when she passed a man with an ill-looking alsatian.

Wound

Less than an hour later, at about 1.30pm on Tuesday, while walking along the banks of the Netherton reservoir, Ms Blakemore she spotted the same man on the opposite shore tying bricks around the animal's neck and trying to push it into the water.

"I was horrified, I couldn't believe what I was seeing," said Ms Blakemore, aged 24, of Birch Avenue, Quarry Bank.

"He was trying to push and pull the dog into the water, but it was growling and backing away."

"The man asked me what I thought was wrong with his dog. It had clumps of hair missing and an open wound on the back of its leg."

"I said maybe it was a skin infection and he said, 'I can't afford the vet bills'."

RSPCA spokeswoman Judith Haw said the charity was "extremely concerned" and appealed for anyone with any information to get in touch on the hotline 0300 1234 999.

'Good innings' for Alice ends peacefully at 105

SHE was born in the same year as screen goddess Greta Garbo, actress Joan Crawford and aviator and film director Howard Hughes – but outlived them all by decades.

Some years before Alice Grainger's death at the age of 105, she wrote down some of her memories of the high and low spots of the Pensnett area where she was brought up.

Alice, whose maiden name was Watkins, wrote: "I was born in Church Street, Pensnett, April 1905, which people called Bottom End or the Green Doors, which opened out to the railway."

"This ran from engine sheds to Baggeridge Colliery. Two of my old brothers then worked there."

"The Green Doors were leading to hay fields, pit banks and pools, including Fens at middle."

"Several people were drowned in the middle."

"The one I remember most were two children, brother and sister, which were on their way to Hart Hill School."

On a happier note, Alice recalled picking daisies, but-tercups and pretending to be a May Queen in the fields.

"We had no luxuries, shabby clothes, hardly any food but oh, how life was worth living," she said.

Alice worked until she was 70 – until her employers told her she had to leave when they realised how old she was.

For the last 25 years she

lived on her own in a flat in William Street, Brierley Hill, until she was taken to Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital with an ankle injury. She died from old age on January 19 at the Island Court nursing home, in Coseley.

Her funeral was at Gornal Wood Crematorium last Wednesday.

Born into a mining family in Pensnett, Alice's first husband was Leighton Maybury and the couple, who had five children, ran the Black Horse pub in Lowesmoor, Worcester.

"We had no luxuries, hardly any food . . . but oh, how life was worth living"

Following Mr Maybury's death aged 62, Alice met Lawson Grainger and they married in 1967.

The couple lived in John Street, Brierley Hill.

Her daughter Muriel Kimberley, aged 83, of Baxter Road, Brierley Hill, said: "After coming back to Brierley Hill, my mother worked for the old BSR record changer factory in Amblecote."

"She had a good innings, although the loss of my mother has still hit us all badly."



Alice marking her 105th birthday last April



Alice Grainger as a young girl



An old family snapshot of Alice

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Campaign to get more on register for donors

Thousands sign up

More than 107,000 people from Dudley are already on the organ donor register.

Nationwide more than 17 million people have signed up. In the UK since April 2010:

- 689 people have donated organs. An additional 1,713 people have donated corneas.
- 2,250 people have received the gift of sight.
- 1,822 people have received transplants.
- 7,906 people are still waiting for transplants.
- Forty five people in Dudley have received organ transplants while 69 people are on the waiting list.

HOSPITAL staff in Dudley have launched a fresh campaign to recruit more organ donors to help give patients a new lease of life.

They hope to encourage more people to sign the NHS organ donation register.

Doctors, specialist nurses and governors have joined forces to try and cut waiting lists for transplants by increasing the number of potential donors. Since April 45 people in the borough have received organ transplants while 69 patients are currently on the waiting list.

Rebecca Timmins, NHS Blood and Transplant specialist nurse in organ donation, is responsible for organising donations at Russells Hall Hospital, Dudley.

She said: "I speak to families about their relatives' wishes and about how important it is that their wishes are fulfilled."

"I then support them through the whole process so they know what is happening and who is going to benefit from their kind donation."

The Birmingham University graduate works with intensive care consultant Dr Julian Sonksen and emergency department consultant Dr Rajan Paw to encourage staff to see donation as everyday practice.

Amazing

She said three people die every day while waiting for a transplant and we feel that is too many and we want to do something about it."

"Transplants are one of the most miraculous achievements of modern medicine but they depend entirely on the generosity of donors and their families who are willing to make this life-saving gift to others."

"There is a desperate need for



Left to right, specialist nurse Rebecca Timmins, clinical lead Dr Rajan Paw, organ donation committee chairman Councillor Steve Walther, clinical lead Dr Julian Sonksen and Sister Melanie Rushton, from the critical care unit

more donors, not just locally but nationally," added Dr Sonksen.

The hospital has an organ donation committee which is working to encourage more donors to sign up the national register.

Members include hospital governor and St Thomas's ward councillor, Steve Walther who has spoken at Dudley Council's four area committee meetings.

"It is such an amazing gift to give and one that often helps more than one person."

"We desperately need more people to sign up for the register so we can increase the number of transplants that are carried out each year and reduce the waiting lists," he said.

To find out more call 0300 1232323 or go to www.organ-donation.nhs.uk

REVIEWS

thechronicle

Class war is no paradise

PARADISE POSTPONED BY JOHN MORTIMER

John Mortimer's *Paradise Postponed* is a mini-series from the 1980s which was the next big project for the creator of *Rumpole of the Bailey* and has a cast that reads like a *Who's Who?* of British theatre and TV.

The list of famous actors includes Sir Michael Hordern, Annette Crosbie, Zoe Wanamaker, Peter Egan, Paul Shelley and David Threlfall.

Paradise is, among other things, a chronicle of class division and centres around two families from polarised ends of the social scale, the Simcoxes who are a well-heeled vicar's family and the working class Titmus clan.

The Simcoxes are headed by left wing and socialist vicar Simeon, played by Hordern who is married to Dorothy, played by Crosbie, they have two sons Henry (Egan) and Fred (Shelley) and all is well, apart from the odd controversy stirred up by Simeon's socialist sermons.

However, when Simeon dies to everyone's horror or amazement his recently changed will leaves all his wealth, including shares in the local brewery, to ultra-right wing Conservative minister Leslie Titmus (Threlfall) and this



sparks off events which open up a can of worms for everyone involved.

His father's death forces Henry into action to contest the will and to find out why such a staunch lefty should leave everything to someone who is anathema to everything Simeon believes, and of course to reclaim the inheritance for himself and his family.

Distasteful

Fred however, finds the whole thing distasteful but is drawn in to uncover the truth and to save his father's reputation from the

threat of him being branded a lunatic.

Through flashbacks the history of the two families are unravelled from the immediate post-war era to the present and through the politically turbulent time of the Thatcher era.

What the past reveals is class war, decadence, sibling rivalry, sniping, backstabbing, political ambition and many more people trying very hard to hide their part in or keep what they know of the mystery from being revealed.

Paradise is set among a section of society which generally does not exist today and few people will recognise or relate to the grandeur of living in stately homes with servants and the class division Mortimer portrays, this said it is a rosy-spectacled view of the British.

However, as each of the characters progress through life, taking their own paths and gaining success in various professional fields, Henry an author and scriptwriter and Fred a local GP, they begin to realise, as the hunt heads towards its climax and the "reveal" with a couple of nicely added twists, how entwined their lives are.

Paradise Postponed is an awfully British saga where everyone is incredibly civilised and dignified so much so that it's never sure whether it's a parody or a pastiche of the English class system.

The chances are with Mortimer it's a little of both.

Paradise Postponed six disc box set is

Guide that opens Windows

THE BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO WINDOWS 7 BY SUSAN HOLDEN & MATTHEW FRANCIS.

We all know by now the latest operating system from Microsoft is Windows 7 the simpler system which superceded the clunking annoyance of Vista.

So this Beginner's guide will be of interest to anyone who already has a PC or laptop or is thinking of buying one.

Unlike most manuals or guides for computers you will not get a hernia picking this one up, while not exactly pocket size, it is small enough to fit in the palm of your hand or keep at the side of your screen.

With 16 chapters in a format that is easy on the eye, except for the diagrams for which you will need a magnifying glass, the guide takes you through the basics of loading, setting up, creating accounts, adjusting the

keyboard and a host of other processes to get you started on the way to being a 7 expert. It does offer practical tips which many would not really think about such as switching your mouse if you happen to prefer to work left handed.

This is one of those books where you can either work through it from back to front or you can dip in and out as you encounter problems or look to do something you're not sure of. The sections are well headed and clear about what they cover and they avoid a great deal of the jargon which is associated with such manuals.

The guide takes you through the simple steps of creating and opening documents or of personalising the look of your screen and desktop to the slightly more involved creation of libraries and organising folders.

It gives common sense advice on protecting your computer and takes you through checking your security settings, explains the function of firewalls and helps you with man-

aging cookies while at the same time explaining what cookies are.

There are sections on dealing with pictures, emails and general computer maintenance all designed to give you confidence in making sure your computer is running as efficiently as it can.

The guide gives you a breakdown and step by step instructions of how to use the various tools which come as standard. All in all this is an accessible and handy guide which doesn't assume everyone who buys a PC is a computer geek.

The Beginner's Guide to Windows 7 is 320 pages and priced at £5.99. Published by Summersdale and is available through internet booksellers all good bookshops and direct from Summersdale.com.

Danny Farragher

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Church dream is becoming reality



Celebrating the first phase of restoration work are Deb Brownlee, Jeff Jewkes, Scott Bicknell, Tony Timmins, Maria Bottley and Michael Amor-Wilkes

FOUR years of fundraising has paid off for supporters fighting to save a landmark Black Country church with the first phase of restoration starting this week.

St John's Church in Kates Hill, Dudley, has been shut since 2002 when it was closed to worshippers due to safety fears. But now campaigners, who have been tirelessly raising cash to fund repairs, will take the first step towards re-opening the church when work to protect it from the elements begins. Complete restoration could cost up to £1million.

The first phase will see a lighting conductor fitted to the roof and the drains around the grade II listed building cleared of debris and vegetation before the church is waterproofed. Plans are also being drawn up to restore the lychgate.

Architect

A feasibility study is also being carried out, looking at possible future uses of the building and this will be used to attract funding for the rest of the restoration.

There was a community celebration to mark the start of the project yesterday (Wednesday).

Preservation group chairman Deb Brownlee said: "This is a historic moment for Kates Hill."

"Our loyal supporters have waited a long time for this moment, but here we are at last and this is just the start. Hopefully the waterproofing works will be next and we have also just agreed in the St John's Church Steering Group, chaired by the Archdeacon of Dudley, to employ an architect to draw up plans for the restoration of the lychgate."

Professor Carl Chinn, patron of the preservation group, said he was delighted to "see the dream starting to come true."

MP joins fight over closure of station

AN MP is launching a campaign to prevent a South Staffordshire police station being shut and sold to cut costs.

Staffordshire Police is closing nine police stations to save cash following government cuts.

The station in Wombourne High Street is threatened but Tory MP Gavin Williamson believes residents will fight for it and plans to take to the streets with a petition on Saturday.

Wombourne Parish Council chairman Barry Bond said: "It is vital that Wombourne has a police station, not just for the village itself but for the much wider community that it serves."

"It's not just a place for weary bobbies to rest, but a facility at the heart of the community. The prospect of its closure is a very real concern to me."

Sharing

"I will be looking to make sure they understand local feeling, the police need to know very clearly that people in Wombourne want the station and I am confident thousands will support me."

Chief Constable Mike Cunningham said they expected to cut 300 jobs.

The police authority is investigating the possibility of sharing space with schools, church halls, libraries and shops in a bid to find cheaper places for staff to work from.

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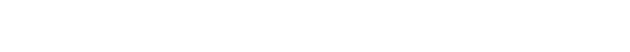
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Scheme 3 - Over 70's

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Taxi driver sentenced for passenger attack

Deep holes a 'risk to drivers'

A POTHOLE-cratered main road has been branded a "risk to drivers" amid claims a council failed to make repairs despite problems being reported more than a year ago.

Around 50 potholes opened up in Worcester Lane, between Stourbridge and Hagley, following the heavy snowfall in January 2010.

But despite the issue being reported to Dudley Council no repairs were ever carried out, residents say. The potholes have deepened during this year's big freeze.

Programme

Further reports have been made to the authority but despite some of the holes being marked out with paint no work has been carried out, it is claimed.

Retired school teacher Graham Quinlivan, aged 63, said the holes were "a risk to drivers".

"I personally reported all 50 of these potholes on Dudley Council's website. I received an acknowledgement but nothing was done."

Dudley council's cabinet member for transport, Councillor Angus Adams said: "Any reports of potholes from the public go into our ongoing programme of works for highways patching and pothole repairs, which saw the council fill more than 15,000 potholes during 2010."



Graham Quinlivan with one of the potholes in the lane

A TAXI driver who attacked a passenger for criticising his driving has been given a suspended prison sentence and ordered to pay £1,250 in compensation and costs.

A bystander joined in the attack on the passenger and his friend, who was knocked unconscious, a court heard.

Taxi driver Abdul Jabbar, from Vicarage Road, Lye, was given an eight-month sentence, suspended for two years, for pulling Wayne Clark from his private hire cab and kicking him. Mr Clark suffered a head wound and needed three stitches.

His friend Ryan Broadbent was knocked unconscious after attacked by bystander Arfan Rauf, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard. Rauf, of Grange Road, Lye, was also given a suspended sentence and ordered to pay £3,250.

Jabbar, aged 31, pleaded guilty to assaulting Mr Clark causing actual bodily harm. Rauf, 25, pleaded guilty to assaulting Mr Clark and Mr Broadbent, causing actual bodily harm.

Unpaid

Jabbar was ordered to pay £250 in compensation to Mr Clark, as well as £1,000 court costs, and to carry out 180 hours of unpaid work in the community.

Rauf was ordered to pay £2,000 in compensation to Mr Broadbent, £250 to Mr Clark and £1,000 in costs. He must also carry out 200 hours of unpaid work.

Recorder Martin Butterworth told them: "Your behaviour was appalling."

Mr Julian Elcock, prosecuting, said the victims and two other men had got into Jabbar's taxi in Stourbridge in the early hours of New Year's Day 2010. They dropped one man off in Netherton and had been heading towards Quarry Bank when Mr Clark described Jabbar's driving as "erratic".

The court heard that this led Jabbar to pull over and assault Mr Clark. Rauf, who was returning home from a night out, joined in and knocked Mr Broadbent out.

Defending solicitor for Jabbar, Mr Afzal Zaheer, said his client had asked the party to leave his taxi and they had refused.

He added that his client was no longer working as a taxi driver and had expressed his remorse. Diljit Bachada, for Rauf, said her client had since avoided drinking alcohol.

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thechronicle

Nursery is awarded top marks in Ofsted inspection



Youngsters at Tipton Toddlers celebrate their Ofsted report

A MIDLAND day nursery has received an "outstanding" Ofsted report, just months after moving to a new home.

Not-for-profit organisation Tipton Toddlers moved into its new building in Groveland Road in June, after leaving its former home of 10 years, Sacred Heart Church Hall.

Inspectors, who visited the nursery in November, said youngsters are given "an excellent range of experiences, supporting

their learning highly effectively, ensuring they make excellent progress towards the early learning goals".

The nursery, which also offers care for children up to the age of 12 before and after school, had a temporary home at the former Locarno school, before moving into its new premises.

Committed

It has around 80 children on the roll. Between 45 and 50 youngsters are under school age and the remainder are older

children, cared for outside school hours. The number at the centre each day depends on the requirements of parents, with different age groups using different parts of the building.

The report said that "overall the quality of the provision is outstanding" and also praised the commitment of staff.

It read: "The setting is wholly inclusive and each child is valued and respected. Staff are well qualified and totally committed to ensuring that the unique needs of each child are clearly identified and met."

£12m is set aside for housing work

MORE than £12 million will be earmarked to help build 80 council houses in Dudley.

Demolition works have already started on site for the first project at Blackthorn Road, Wordsley, where 20 new homes are being built.

Works on the remaining schemes will all begin by March. They include building 22 new homes in Norwood Road, Brierley Hill, 19 new homes in Wood Road,

Lower Gornal and transforming the former Holly Hall Housing office and Woodside Library into eight new homes.

Details of the project went before last week's cabinet meeting. Dudley Council housing chief David Simms said after the meeting: "I am extremely pleased work is getting under way, it is an exciting time, they are the first council houses to be built in 20 years."

Council housing budgets

unveiled at the cabinet meeting also revealed more than £7m of home improvements will be carried out over the course of the next five years.

Included in that is the installation of around 300 kitchens and 420 bathrooms.

Another £1m of re-roofing works are to be carried out and 775 electric storage heating systems replaced with efficient gas heating systems as part of an £8m home heating investment.

Lawyer's advice is on Twitter

A SOLICITOR from Dudley has helped set up a revolutionary way to get legal advice.

Amanda Robson, from Kingswinford's AJR Solicitors, will be giving advice on @thelegaloracle; the country's first Twitter based Law Firm.

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Blade man jailed after CCTV alert

A MAN landed in serious trouble when he was thrown out of a Brierley Hill pub. Mitchell Priest walked away from the Red Lion, in High Street, but returned soon afterwards with a blade from a pair of shears hidden behind his back.

The whole incident had been captured on CCTV and police were alerted. Wolverhampton Crown Court heard. Mrs Kanwal Juss, prosecuting, said an alcohol test revealed a level of 66, 31 over the limit for motorists. Police also found a

small amount of cocaine in his sock, and discovered that he was already the subject of a suspended prison sentence for dangerous driving.

Priest, 23, of Dreadnought Road, Pensnett, admitted possessing a bladed article and crack cocaine, and driving with excess alcohol, while disqualified, without insurance.

Recorder Martin Butterworth jailed him for two years and banned him from driving for a further three years.

Bridge down to single lane for repair project

Gift aids guide dogs for the deaf

GENEROUS members of a Dudley Lions group have paid for a guide dog to help deaf people.

Stourbridge and Kingswinford Lions raised £5,500 to fund an animal for Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, in memory of Lions member Derek Pitt, who died last year.

The cash will pay for the dog to be trained to alert its owner to certain sounds.

Past-president Arthur Peakman said: "Derek was always very concerned about helping deaf people and we thought this was an excellent way to remember him."

"These dogs can help out in many ways - even if it is just the doorbell or phone ringing."

The cash was raised through events such as quizzes and spot the ball, and Lion Graham Foster generated £1,000 by walking from Stourport to Wolverhampton.

The charity trains 200 dogs a year. Puppies are placed in family homes from about six to eight weeks through to around 12-14 months, when they return to a training centre to begin their soundwork training.



Mayor Peter Miller with Stourbridge and Kingswinford Lions president Rob Owen, fundraising organiser for Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, Anne Byrne, service user Diana Nutt and her dog, Bruno

A BUSY route through Brierley Hill will be partially closed off to motorists for a month while maintenance work costing tens of thousands of pounds is carried out on a bridge.

Moor Street will be shut between North Street and Addison Road from next Monday until March 21. As part of the project the bridge on the street will be reduced to one lane with vehicles controlled by traffic lights.

Dudley Council spokeswoman Katherine Finney said: "The works aim to protect the edge of the bridge from heavy loads and are part of our statutory responsibility to maintain the highway infrastructure."

"The road layout will be changed to a single lane, which will be controlled by traffic lights. New kerbs and pedestrian safety rails will also be installed."

Mains

"Divisions will be in place and we ask people to bear with us while the work is carried out."

She said that the work will cost in the region of £60,000 which will be funded by central Government via the Local Transport Plan. Council bosses say they will look to maintain access to people's properties when it is safe to do so.

The diversion route will be North Street, Church Street, Bull Street, Addison Road and vice versa.

It has also just been announced that Ebenezer Street, Cosely, will be closed between Castle Street and Birmingham New Road, from next Monday to February 27 for gas mains replacement work.

The diversion route will be Castle Street, Bank Street, Birmingham New Road and Castle Street, Mason Street, Birmingham New Road.

thechronicle

COMPETITION

Put a spring in your step down at the safari park

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YOUR CHRONICLE series has teamed up with West Midland Safari Park in Bewdley and has 30 fabulous family tickets to give away in our easy to enter competition just as it fully opens the gates for summer on Saturday, February 19.

Voted the most popular tourist attraction in the Midlands by children and parents, West Midland Safari Park has some of the coolest animals around in the amazing four-mile drive safari.

There's a fantastic exhibit called 'Realm of the Indian rhino'. And 'Cheetah' - the fastest land animal on earth' along with the UK's largest pride of rare and mysterious white lions; stunning white tigers; giraffe as tall as a double-decker bus; famous elephants that can paint and play football; African rhino that freely roam the animal reserves; mischievous African Wild Dogs; North American timber wolves and a mob of pure white wallabies, to name just a few. The wonderful self-drive, all-weather, safari covers an area of four miles and you can even drive around as many times as you like!

Attractions

There's a Discovery Trail with a variety of splendid all-weather attractions such as Twilight Cave to see free flying bats, jumping rats and the extraordinary Aye aye; Seaquarium to view wonderful creatures of the deep; TV Star Mark O'Shea's Reptile World with its incredible collection of snakes and reptiles from all around the globe - who knows you may even meet Mark O'Shea when he presents his special Reptile Encounters!

There's Creepy Crawlies - home to creatures that haunt the night - and friendly animal encounters along with a Sea Lion Show performed several times each day to packed audiences. You can also visit the Hippo Lakes, home to the largest family group - or pod - of hippo in the country, with its wonderful viewing platform high above the lake.

Direct

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Each ticket admits a family of up to four people before the park closes for winter on November 4, 2011. Whilst amusement rides are not included as part of the prize, multi-ride wristbands and ride tickets are available to purchase on the day.

Further information: www.wmsp.co.uk

To be in with a chance of winning, simply answer this question:

What exhibit at West Midland Safari Park has a viewing platform:
a) Realm of the Indian Rhino b) Discovery Trail c) Hippo Lakes
Send your answer to: Safari park

competition (editorial), Chronicle Series, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES with your contact details on the back.

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Dudley Castle provided Robert Aston with the backdrop for his novel Jack O'Beans, which is set in the 13th century when the castle was a hive of activity

Hands-on history lesson helped author with novel



It was joining battle re-enactments by the Friends of Dudley Castle, like this one with Roger Richards, that helped Robert Aston's research

Robert Aston with his book Jack O'Beans, which he hopes will give people an insight into the medieval items and attractions dotted around the Black Country and get them looking into local history



An author is hoping to capture the imagination of the Black Country with his novel that delves into the history of Dudley Castle.

Robert Aston was inspired to write after attending a creative writing course at Dudley Library and has since published his first novel, Jack O'Beans.

It is set during the 13th century in the medieval age when Dudley Castle was a hive of activity. It tells the tale of Jack, a young boy who constantly finds himself in some sort of trouble.

The 72-year-old, of Oak Street, Coseley, describes Jack O'Beans as a logical version of Jack and the Beanstalk and believes it should appeal locally as the book is based on real historical events which took place across the Black Country.

Robert was born in Oxford but returned

A creative writing course made Robert Aston realise he had a story. Now he has published his first book and tells CHRIS FEEHAN about it

to his Black Country roots when he moved to Dudley to live with his grandmother in 1948.

The author says: "A Dudley based company, John Thompsons, sent me to night school once a week and I decided I wanted to become the student of the year because I'd heard it meant I'd study at Cambridge University."

He won the award and spent a term there. "The experience changed me, I went from dunce to student and I decided I wanted to become an academic," he says.

Robert went to Birmingham University, where he obtained a degree, and continued to work there as a staff member until retirement. He then took up writing and attended the creative writing course.

He says: "It was a real eye opener I found myself on the course along with 12 women, it was there I realised everybody has a story

and every story deserved to be told."

Mr Aston sent a few episodes detailing Jack's adventures to the Black Country Bugle. The tales became a frequent feature and he decided to turn them into a book.

Robert began researching Middle English and participated in battle re-enactments held by the Friends of Dudley Castle on the castle grounds.

He says: "Joining the Friends of Dudley Castle has made writing the book a lot more hands on, you can really get a feel for the castle and it is amazing how much the other members know about the castle's history."

"There are so many medieval items and attractions dotted around the area and I hope my book will give people an insight into them and hopefully get them looking into our local history."

The book is available to buy from online book stores and some local book shops.

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Curtain raises on new show

MEMBERS of a Black Country theatre group have announced details of their latest production.

Quarry Bank Operatic Society is gearing up for their annual musical extravaganza at Halesowen's Cornbow Hall next month.

The show will run at the venue, in Hagley Street, from March 2-5.

It will feature numbers from stage and screen favourites including Hairspray, Mamma Mia,

Cabaret, Shrek and 42nd Street. Its previous show of Titanic – the Musical was staged at Netherton Arts Centre and featured on Channel 4 television show Titanic: The Mission which was about the return of the controversial Netherton Anchor.

Tickets cost £10 each and include light refreshments.

They are available by calling 01384 820902 or by emailing linda.raybould@yahoo.co.uk

Council gets £388,000 from 'surplus' auction

Acorns mark shop's first year

ACORNS' Dudley shop staff have been celebrating their first birthday.

The shop in the High Street was opened by the deputy mayor and mayoress of Dudley last January and has marked the anniversary with a week of activities.

Face painting, a lucky dip and tombola have helped pull in the shoppers along with a celebratory buy two – get one free offer.

Manager Vicky Hindmarsh said: "Acorns has had a great response and welcome from all the customers at Dudley.

Breaks

"We would like to thank them for their generosity and support over the last year."

Meanwhile, people are being asked to donate goods to the shop during opening hours from 9 – 5pm.

Funds are raised from every sort of donation – even worn shoes, handbags and clothes can be sold, as rag.

Children can stay at the Acorn hospices for short breaks, emergency and end-of-life care.

Acorns is currently caring for nearly 600 children who have life-limiting or life-threatening conditions.



Dudley's Acorns shop manager Vicky Hindmarsh, left, celebrates the first birthday for the shop with volunteers Richard Gregory and Danielle Roberts

thechronicle

THE WAY I SEE IT

MPs have spoken loud and clear over votes for prisoners

LAST week MPs voted on a motion put forward by Conservative MP David Davis and veteran Labour MP Jack Straw stating – in strong terms – the dissatisfaction amongst MPs with the ruling from the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) that we, in Britain, must give prisoners the right to vote.

The Commons vote was a free vote, which meant that MPs were able to vote according to their consciences (or not to vote at all) in an un-whipped vote. I felt that it was very important to be in Parliament last Thursday to help deliver the largest majority possible giving the Government a strong hand in arguing with the ECHR. I am pleased to report that 165 Conservative MPs, including myself, voted for the Davis/Straw motion, along with 62 Labour MPs. Twenty two MPs (almost entirely Labour and Lib Dem) voted against the motion in what I can only describe as a bizarre decision on their part.

The House of Commons has now spoken loudly and clearly.

I cannot for a moment imagine that my constituents would wish to see some of the most serious and vile offenders in the country given the right to vote in our elections. I find the notion sickening and repugnant. The Government now has a strong Parliamentary mandate to find a solution to a problem that Labour did nothing to resolve during their last term in office.

It is now likely that the number of years served by prisoners allowed and not allowed to vote will now be determined according to legal advice; the Government should do the absolute minimum to meet its legal obligations in this respect thereby ensuring that the most serious offenders will remain barred from voting whilst payment of compensation to prisoners using taxpayers' money is avoided.

Also on the theme of law and order, the Government has made important announcements on tackling anti-social behaviour. Anti-social behaviour has, for far too long, created havoc in communities across Dudley and the Black

**Dudley South
Conservative
MP Chris Kelly
takes the stand
in our weekly
Chronicle
column which
gives our local
representatives
the chance to
air their views
on issues that
matter**



criminality in a specific place such as closing a property used for drug dealing; and

● Police powers to direct any individual causing or likely to cause crime or disorder away from a particular place and to confiscate related items.

Proposals to reform anti-social behaviour tools and powers are just one part of the Government approach to anti-social behaviour that includes:

● Directly-elected police and crime commissioners to restore links between police and the communities they serve

● Street level crime maps and local policing information that allow the public to see where crime and ASB are committed in their neighbourhood;

● A new approach for handling complaints of ASB that will be trialled in eight police forces. The new system for logging complaints will make it easier to share information, helping to quickly identify and protect vulnerable victims;

● Plans for social landlords to speed up eviction of tenants who commit persistent ASB, announced by the Housing Minister earlier this year; and

● Work by Baroness Newlove (the Government's champion for active safer communities) to empower communities and drive up local activism.

Labour's Asbos totally failed to deal with the levels of disorder that we have witnessed across the West Midlands.

I was shocked last week to hear shadow police minister Vernon Coaker claim under Labour "anti-social behaviour became less of a problem".

I fully support the Government's commitment to fight back against anti-social behaviour with stream-lined but more effective powers, and real, meaningful penalties.

The five powers under consultation are:

● Community Triggers – local agencies will be compelled to take action if no action is taken after several people in the same neighbourhood have complained or one individual complains three times

● Criminal Behaviour Orders – issued by courts after conviction, would ban an individual from certain activities or places. They would require them to address their behaviour, for example attending drug treatment programmes. A breach could see a maximum five year prison term;

● Crime Prevention Injunctions – designed to nip bad behaviour in the bud before it escalates. These would carry a civil burden of proof, making it quicker and easier to obtain than previous tools. For adults, breach of the injunction could see you imprisoned or fined. For under-18s a breach could be dealt with through curfews, supervision or detention.

● Community Protection Orders – comprising one order for local authorities to stop persistent environmental ASB like graffiti, neighbour noise or dog fouling; and another for police and local authorities to deal with more serious disorder and

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'We can all settle down once the construction starts . . . it will bring the town back to life'

Shoppers' mixed feelings over development scheme

STOURBRIDGE shoppers have mixed opinions about the current state of their town centre – with views ranging from "it depresses me" to "it's a bostin' little place".

In total 24 retail premises currently lie empty in High Street, Lower High Street, Coventry Street, Market Street, The Ryemarket and Victoria Passage – on top of the seven stores and the old market now closed in the Crown Centre.

"Stourbridge is very sad – it's dying," said shopper **Jennifer Evans**, aged 64, of Bailey Court, just across the ring road from the Crown Centre and the Bell Street multi-storey car park. "It's a great shame the town has been let go."

Her partner, **Malcolm Mountford**, aged 67, said: "I've lived here all my life and we used to have four cinemas in Stourbridge once upon a time."

"You could buy literally everything in Stourbridge – but the atmosphere's just not the same now."

Narrow

And 80-year-old **Iris Bryan**, of Belbroughton Road, Norton, Stourbridge, said: "I used to love our town centre."

"But now I don't come here very often – it depresses me."

"There was a classier kind of shop here when we first came to Stourbridge 40 years ago and there used to be a lovely Queen

Anne window on one of the buildings just up the High Street. But it's just not like that now."

Her husband, **Dennis Bryan**, also 80, who used to be clerk of works in the architects' department at Birmingham City Council, said: "It ought to be pedestrianised – the pavement in the top part of High Street is so narrow I don't know how they get away with it."

"This used to be a lovely market town but nothing that has been done over the years has improved Stourbridge at all."

Dudley Council is talking to Tesco about the possibility of improving pedestrian safety by widening narrow pavements



It's dying – Jennifer Evans and Malcolm Mountford



It used to be classier – Dennis and Iris Bryan



We love it – Diane Rollason and Esther Mandale

along the High Street as part of the Crown Centre redevelopment. Under planning law, the supermarket giant also has to provide cash for other developments in the area, which could fund the High Street scheme.

And the current grim view that some shoppers have of Stourbridge town centre is rejected by others.

Esther Mandale, aged 36, a mother-of-two, of Duncombe Street, Wollaston, said: "I often

come here with my mother for a mooch."

"It's much nicer than Merry Hill, which we find tiring."

"I like the clothes boutiques and can always find something I want here."

Her mother, **Diane Rollason**, aged 61, of Rothsey Drive, Wordsley, said: "It's nice and busy, with a lot of students."

"We are also looking forward to something being done with the Crown Centre."

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Deserted – the old Crown Centre in Stourbridge currently bordered off

Plans for £50m centre look set to be approved

STOURBRIDGE'S long-awaited £50 million new Crown Centre development should get the go-ahead within the next six weeks.

It should pave the way for local traders to ring up an estimated extra £200,000 a week through their tills.

And that is on top of the estimated £1million a week that Tesco should earn from its 60,000sq ft superstore within the scheme.

The president of Stourbridge Chamber of Trade, Peter Cox, said the town had been "treading water" while there was uncertainty about the future development of the Crown Centre.

"We can all settle down once we know the dates and construction starts – it will bring the town back to life," he said.

Councillor Les Jones, deputy leader of Dudley Council, said: "There's no uncertainty about it – it's when, not if. The planning application is likely to go through in the next six weeks and then we can get on with the task of rebuilding the Crown Centre."

Councillor Jones added that Tesco could expect an extra £1m a week through its tills from its own store. "About 20 per cent of customers will spill out into the other town centre shops, which would mean an extra £200,000 a week for them," he said.

"It will be extremely good for niche market stores, with an extra 200,000 people attracted into the town over the course of a year."

"There will be major upheaval while

the development is carried out – it will be a very painful process. But if we don't do something, Stourbridge will die."

Tony Fletcher, corporate affairs manager for Tesco, said it was hoped demolition work, including knocking down the Bell Street multi-storey car park linked to the Crown Centre, would start later this year and construction would begin early in 2012.

"With a following wind we hope to open by Christmas 2012," he said. "Tesco has been looking at this project for a very long time and was thwarted when one developer didn't go through with it – and now we have taken on the plan ourselves."

Clock

"The Crown Centre is in desperate need of care and attention and this regeneration with revitalise the area." The plans include a two-level underground car park to be built below Tesco's, which would be open to the public generally – but only for use up to three hours at a time.

Dudley Council's existing parking charges would be maintained but customers shopping at Tesco would be able to reclaim some of the cost. Eight retail outlets, as well as the superstore, are planned for the Crown Centre and Tesco has pledged to retain the existing clock featuring the Stourbridge Lion locomotive and to relocate a mosaic of Stourbridge's coat of arms nearby in the piazza at the front of the new superstore.

Cool, but a lonely place

IT'S a lonely, desolate place – in the heart of Stourbridge's bustling town centre.

Just one shop remains open in the main part of the Crown Centre – surrounded by eight deserted premises.

Only pigeons now walk underneath the clock featuring the famous Stourbridge Lion locomotive, which is in an area that

has been sealed off for safety reasons. Meanwhile, elsewhere in the town, another 24 shops lie empty and the Farmer's Market, which used to be a regular feature in Coventry Street, has pulled out.

Questions

All of this should be transformed by the end of 2012. In the meantime,

store manager Adrian Rozzier and his nine-strong team at the Cooltrader discount frozen food branch, are ploughing a lonely furrow as the sole retail outlet in the Crown Centre.

"It feels lonely and a bit of a struggle," said Mr Rozzier. There are so many unanswered questions for our future."

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9ft	2744	322.00	334.00	341.00	348.00	408.00	415.00	430.00	444.00	480.00	502.00	507.00
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Museum exhibitions officer Adrian Durkin admires the photographs



Two of former college lecturer Tim Joplin's earlier photographs, the one on the left is of Snowdonia which he took in 1986



Tim Joplin and his wife Ruth at the exhibition of his work on display at Dudley Museum and Art Gallery



Tim Joplin's montage of a chestnut tree and, right, one of his garden photographs, which have become one of his passions



Photographer Tim fulfils display dream

WHEN an undiagnosed abscess left him paralysed from the neck down, Black Country artist Tim Joplin feared his ambition to stage an exhibition had been dashed.

But the former Dudley College photography lecturer was determined not to let the tragedy get in his way – and with the help of friends and family, he has forged forward to pursue his dream of displaying his work.

Father-of-two Mr Joplin, aged 59, from the Dixon's Green area of Dudley, was left paralysed after doctors failed to diagnose an abscess pressing on his spine in 2003.

After a seven-year legal battle, he was awarded compensation of more than £800,000 towards the cost of his future care.

One of Mr Joplin's passions is capturing images of gardens. Some of these are included in a range of his work, dating

from 1974 to 2010, on show at Dudley Museum and Art Gallery, in St James's Road, Dudley, until March 12.

Mr Joplin lectured at the college between 1979 and 1997 heading photography and media studies.

He travelled extensively in the USA, Europe and North Africa producing images of land and cities, exploring the themes of man and his environment.

Some of these have been included in the exhibition, including portraits and landscape shots.

Since 2003, he visualises the image he wants to capture.

The shot is then taken by a third party, a family member or friend, taking pictures using techniques and angles as he instructed them to.

Unfortunately, they could not dedicate the 10 to 15 hours a week necessary to help set up a proper studio or take enough pictures needed for a full exhibition. But, following an

appeal, Mr Joplin recruited Wolverhampton-based photographer Jon Lewis as his assistant.

Mr Joplin's wife, Ruth, said he was excited about the exhibition and had been really pleased with how it looked when he went to see it.

"It is a selection of his work starting from around 1974 and taking it right up to the present day," she said. "It is

great to see all of the images together."

Through the appeal, which attracted applications from former students, neighbours and medical students, museum exhibitions officer Adrian Durkin contacted the family and offered the venue.

He said: "Over the years Mr Joplin has produced a wide range of wonderfully creative images."

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the pulse

Fighting-fit Shayne Ward will not allow X Factor to fade

By Sarah Hazelwood

SHAYNE WARD first graced our screens in 2005 but now he's back after three years with a new album and a new sound.

The X Factor winner is kicking off his UK tour at the Wolverhampton Civic, on March 15, following the release of his third album Obsession.

Hosting an array of hits from his first record-breaking single, That's My Goal, to the R 'n' B fused You Hang Up, the tour will also reveal a side to Shayne that fans have never seen.

Boasting a more mature sound, with live band instrumentals, this latest collection is a sure sign that the 26-year-old, once branded Britain's version of Justin Timberlake, has taken his time producing an album that truly reflects his vocal abilities and personality.

The Manchester heart-throb, picture right, said: "It is really great to be back, so much time has gone into making the album so I'm looking forward to seeing the reception it gets on the tour."

"Vocally and physically I have never been so strong. I am very eager to get myself back out there and try new things. I felt that it was

important that we didn't just churn out another album because my earlier releases were all a bit of a whirlwind. Obsession is a lot more focussed and experimental.

"I have never been to Wolverhampton before, but I am very excited to perform at the Civic and meet some new fans."

His first album, Shayne Ward,

shot straight to number one and went platinum in a fortnight.

Six years since he first graced our screens, Ward is fighting fit and ready to take the music world by storm once again.

Tickets are £25 and can be purchased from the Midland Box Office on 0870 320 7000 or on-line at www.wolvescivic.co.uk

Katie has new show date

SINGER Katie Melua will be in concert at Birmingham's Symphony Hall on April 27, an event originally scheduled to take place in the NIA last December.

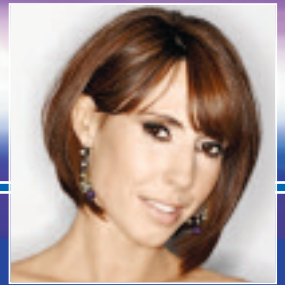
Fans can look forward to hits from her first three international best-selling albums including The Closest Thing To Crazy and Nine Million Bicycles as well as songs from her latest album, The House.

Released last in May, her fourth album has garnered some of the finest reviews of her career.

Tickets for her city centre date are priced from £30 to £50. Call 0121 780 3333.



Katie Melua in concert at Birmingham



TV listings start - page xx

YOUR EIGHT-PAGE ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE AND WEEK'S TV VIEWING



Theatre and show round-up - page xx



Reviews and gigs - page xx

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Who dunnit? Audience could have put question to Agatha

MYSTERY writer Agatha Christie's Verdict received its World Premiere at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre in 1958 before transferring to the West End - the author herself sat in the audience on the very first night.

Now, 53 years on, the play returns to the Grand with actress Dawn Steele leading an all-star cast from Monday for one week only.

Dawn is best known for playing Lexie MacDonald in the hit BBC TV drama Monarch of the Glen and recently starred as Alice Collins in the popular TV series Wild at Heart, which continues for its sixth series.

She will be joined by Robert Duncan (who played Gus Hedges in the award-winning TV comedy Drop the Dead Donkey) and Ali Bastian, who shot to fame as Becca Dean in Hollyoaks and as Pc Sally Armstrong in The Bill. Ali also reached the semi-finals in the hit BBC show Strictly Come Dancing in 2009.

Brilliant

Other familiar faces in the cast include Matthew Lewis, who plays Neville Longbottom in the Harry Potter movies, EastEnders actress Elizabeth Power and 1960s pop idol turned actor Mark Wynter.

Verdict is one of Christie's few original plays which is not based on a novel or short story. It opened at the Strand Theatre in the West End in May 1958, and ran for 250 performances, before going on to New York.

It tells of the brilliant and idealistic Professor Karl Hendryk, a refugee from persecution in his homeland, whose world is turned upside down by a rich young woman student he is forced to give private lessons to in order to pay for the care of his invalid wife.

Willy Russell's Scouse musical Blood Brothers, with Niki Evans as the long-suffering Mrs Johnstone, continues at the Grand to Saturday.

Three Phantoms - and one Christine - join



Verdict cast members, from left; Dawn Steele, Matthew Lewis and Ali Bastian

forces for a night of Phantastic music at Birmingham Hippodrome for one night only on Sunday. The Three Phantoms stars John Owen-Jones, Earl Carpenter and Matthew Cammelle, who between them have clocked up more than 3,000 performances as the star of the West End blockbuster, The Phantom of

the Opera. The trio will be joined by the Concert Philharmonic Orchestra, three dancers and special guest Rebecca Caine, who played Christine opposite Michael Crawford's original Phantom.

As well as songs from the Phantom and one from the 'new' Phantom show Love Never

Dies, the concert will also include favourites from Les Miserables, Aspects of Love and Sunset Boulevard.

Matthew Bourne's acclaimed dance version of Cinderella, which keeps Prokofiev's magical music but transports the location to London in the Blitz, continues at the Hippodrome to Saturday.

Pontypandy Rocks at the New Alexandra Theatre in Birmingham on Sunday at 1.30 and 4pm with little children's favourite Fireman Sam Live. There is a tribute to the late Roy Orbison by Barry Steele and the Platinum Five at the Alex on Thursday, February 24.

Birmingham Rep's first off-site production, Kenny Baraka's one-hour post-apocalyptic tale The Rememberers, is held in a warehouse at the AE Harris Building in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter to Saturday (box office 0121 236 4455).

On Friday and Saturday (February 18 and 19) Kall Theatre will be bringing their production, Gandhi and Coconuts to The Public in West Bromwich town centre.

Starring Sophiya Haque, better known as Poppy Morales in Coronation Street, Gandhi and Coconuts is a witty, playful and poignant play about a lonely wife for whom reality and fantasy begin to blur.

Highlights

British Punjabi storytellers Peter and Gorg Chand tell stories collected and translated from India, with a wedding as the starting point, in Henna at Wolverhampton's Arena Theatre tonight (Thursday). Tomorrow night (Fri) at the Arena Flick Ferdinand presents a black comedy about a woman obsessed with equine matters in Horse.

Comedy highlights include radio and TV regular Mark Steel at the Slade Rooms in Wolverhampton tonight (Thu), One of Frankie Boyle's favourite comics, Craig Campbell, has sold out his Slade Rooms gig on February 25, as has Georgie comedienne Sarah Milligan on the same night at Birmingham Town Hall.

Jason Donovan and Verity Rushworth star in The Sound of Music at Hanley's Regent Theatre until March 5.

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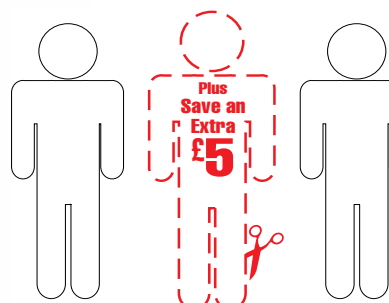
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Choice	BBC1	BBC2	ITV1	Channel 4	Channel 5	Digital
<p>LET'S DANCE FOR COMIC RELIEF BBC1, 7pm</p> <p>Robert Webb and Rufus Hound rewrite the first in a series of satirical sketches. What will follow in this first of two series? There are books, games, and the internet. But what will be the next? The winner will be crowned the first of the series. The winner will be crowned the first of the series. The winner will be crowned the first of the series.</p>	<p>10.00 All New Wheel of Fortune Adventure game show in which 20 men and women compete in a series of challenges to win a prize. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p> <p>10.30 Little Deaths Comedy sketch series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p> <p>11.00 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p> <p>11.30 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p>	<p>10.00 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p> <p>10.30 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p> <p>11.00 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p> <p>11.30 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p>	<p>10.00 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p> <p>10.30 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p> <p>11.00 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p> <p>11.30 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p>	<p>10.00 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p> <p>10.30 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p> <p>11.00 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p> <p>11.30 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p>	<p>10.00 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p> <p>10.30 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p> <p>11.00 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p> <p>11.30 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p>	<p>10.00 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p> <p>10.30 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p> <p>11.00 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p> <p>11.30 The British at War Documentary series. Hosted by Jeff Brazier.</p>



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Friday

BBC1 9.00 Breakfast 9.15 Holby City
10.00 Home Under the Hammer (R)
BBC News Weather 11.00 Wedi of
Recky 11.15 The Bill 11.30
Weather 12.15 Ertghin Hunt (R) 1.00 BBC News
Weather 12.30 Regional News Weather 1.55
Doctors 2.15 Escape to the Country 3.00 BBC
News Weather 3.15 The Bill 3.30
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Regional News Programme Weather 5.00 The
Bill 5.15 The Bill 5.30 BBC News Weather
Regional News 5.50 Ertghin Hunt 6.30 (R)
3.00 News Tldig 7.00 BBC News 7.25
Regional News Weather 7.55 The Graham
Night 8.00 The Bill 8.15 The Bill
Night Drive 11.30 Film: Rhin: High Crime (2002)
Thriller, directed Achy Juck Weather 12.30
South Coast Trading (R) 1.00
BBC News Weather 1.15 The Bill 1.30
BBC News Weather 1.55 The Bill 2.00

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ITV 6.00 Exploded; 7.30 Lorraine; 8.25 This Is Jeremy's Life Show; 9.30 This Morning
12.30 Loose Women; 1.30 ITV News Weather; 1.55 Regional News Weather; 2.00 House Of Cards; 2.00 Countdown; Real Deal (R); 3.30 Regional News Weather; 4.00 Midsomer Murders; 5.00 The Chase; 6.00 The Big Bang Theory; 6.30 ITV News Weather; 7.00 Birmingham; 7.30 Coronation Street; 8.00 Children's Hospital; 9.30 Coronation Street; 9.50 Berkinsons; 10.00 ITV News at Ten; 10.30 Regional News Weather; 10.35 The Cube (R); 11.15 The Mid Out (R); 12.30 The Big Bang Theory; 1.00 The Big Bang Theory; 1.30 ITV News Weather; 1.55 ITN Midlands; 1.58 ITN Northern

Channel 4 6:30 *The Twelve Apostles* (1992) **TV-14** The twelve apostles of Jesus Christ. **6:55 The Hoodie** (R) **TV-14** Freddy Spadaro, 2000. **7:00 Everybody Loves Raymond** (R) **TV-14** **Prader** (R) **TV-14** According to Jim (R) **TV-14** **Superman** (TV-14) **7:30 Fox** **Rockhouse** (R) **TV-14** **Channel 4** **News Summary** **12:05 Janis at Home** (R) **TV-14** **Planet Biscuits** **The House** (1972) British comedy starring Jack Skelton. **1:30 Channel 4** **News** **2:00 The 100th** (TV-14) **2:30 The Do Do's** **5:00 Come Dine with Me** **5:30 Channel 4** **TV** **6:00 The Simpsons** (R) **6:30 Hollywood** **7:00 Channel 4** **News** **7:25 Hollywood** **7:50 Ten Horses** **8:00 Entertainment** **8:30 The 100th** **9:00 Entertainment** **9:30 The 100th** **10:00 The 100th** **10:30 The 100th** **11:00 The 100th** **11:30 The 100th** **12:00 The 100th** **12:30 The 100th** **1:00 The 100th** **1:30 The 100th** **2:00 The 100th** **2:30 The 100th** **3:00 The 100th** 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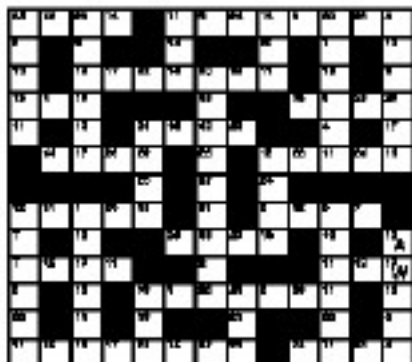
A vibrant, colorful poster for the National Wedding Show. On the left, a silhouette of a bride in a white dress and tiara holds a bouquet of flowers. The background is filled with swirling ribbons in shades of purple, pink, yellow, and blue. Various wedding-related terms are written along these ribbons and in circular bubbles, including "VIR-PICKETS", "EXPERT ADVICE", "HOW TO LOOK GOOD AT THE WEDDING", "CHAMPAGNE BAR", "SHOPPING", "HOW TO LOOK GOOD SHOW", "WOMANISED", "CATWALK SHOWS", "250 EXHIBITORS", "BOUTIQUE AREA", "BRIDAL COACHING", and "FREE GOODY BAG". A central pink bubble says "SAVE MONEY BY BOOKING IN ADVANCE FROM £149 PER PERSON". At the top right, the text "the national wedding sho" is visible. At the bottom, it states "4-6 March 2011 NEC Birmingham" and provides booking information: "Book your tickets in advance at nationalweddingshow.co.uk or call our ticket hotline on 0844 581 1404 and save £5*". Small footnotes clarify the offer: "* based on a group booking of 4" and "** £5 off the standard adult ticket price for online and phone advance bookings." The bottom features logos for sponsors: CHAMBOARD Black Raspberry Liquor, LITTLE WHITE BUS, GILLIES & GEE, VINTAGE, and others.

Brain Gym

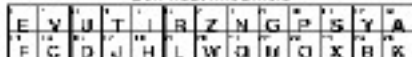
No. 104

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given starting point to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



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WORD SEARCH
NUMBER CRUNCH

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SEVEN GREAT GAMES IN ONE!

SEARCH DAILY EXPRESS PUZZLES



ALL YOUR PUZZLE NEEDS IN ONE HANDY APP!

Double Crossword

Clues are in the quick crossword and cryptic clues - both in the same grid!

Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Match a word, but it's better (2)
2. To get a word, but it's better (2)
3. To get a word, but it's better (2)
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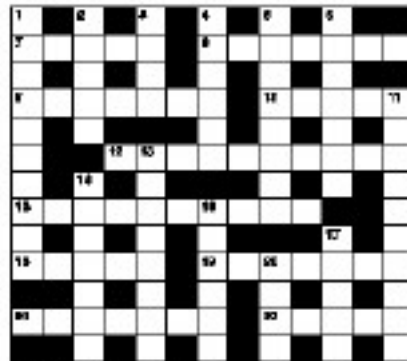
QUICK CRUISE:

Across

1. To get a word, but it's better (2)
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LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION: 1. To get a word, but it's better (2); 2. To get a word, but it's better (2); 3. To get a word, but it's better (2); 4. To get a word, but it's better (2); 5. To get a word, but it's better (2); 6. To get a word, but it's better (2); 7. To get a word, but it's better (2); 8. To get a word, but it's better (2); 9. To get a word, but it's better (2); 10. To get a word, but it's better (2); 11. To get a word, but it's better (2); 12. To get a word, but it's better (2); 13. To get a word, but it's better (2); 14. To get a word, but it's better (2); 15. To get a word, but it's better (2); 16. To get a word, but it's better (2); 17. To get a word, but it's better (2); 18. To get a word, but it's better (2); 19. To get a word, but it's better (2); 20. To get a word, but it's better (2); 21. To get a word, but it's better (2); 22. To get a word, but it's better (2); 23. To get a word, but it's better (2); 24. To get a word, but it's better (2); 25. To get a word, but it's better (2); 26. To get a word, but it's better (2).

Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the three 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.



Circlegram

Replace the question mark with a letter so that this letter with each circle can be arranged to form a word or a common phrase. What are the three words, and in which positions do they fit the question mark?



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION: The letter 'E' was used to form the words 'PAMEL', 'MAGNET', and 'SUNSET'.

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The derilious joy of Janelle

FANS of American R&B have a chance to catch a rising star when Janelle Monae appears in concert at the Birmingham HMV Institute on Friday, February 25.

Her debut album was nominated for two awards at Sunday's Grammy awards, including best album for The ArchAndroid, and the young singer has created a stir with her derisive blend of R&B, acid funk and skewed pop.

No one else sounds quite like her but Kelis, Outkast and Cee Lo Green perhaps come closest.

End of the road

BIRMINGHAM rapper/urban poet Mike Skinner makes his last appearance as The Streets in his home city at the O2 Academy on Friday night, February 25, following the release of his fifth and final



Mike Skinner

Streets album Computers and Blues. The former Sutton Coldfield College student is best known for the 2004 hit single Dry Your Eyes from his second album A Grand Don't Come For Free.

All over for Europe

IT'S The Final Countdown for fans of melodic hard rock when Swedish rockers Europe, who had a massive hit with that song in the mid 1980s, come to the Birmingham O2 Academy tomorrow (Friday) as part of their tour in support of new album Last Look At Eden.



Janelle Monae – rising star

Goodnight Mister Tom.

Wolverhampton Grand Theatre
MICHELLE Magorian's much-loved children's book about a wartime evacuee and the grumpy old man who takes him in has great appeal, as shown by the near full house on opening night. Thankfully, playwright David Wood and director Angus Jackson do it justice.

From the opening, as a line of children sent to rural Dorset to avoid the London blitz march along to their new billets to the sound of Gracie Fields song Wish Me Luck, the play establishes a past era where children say 'wizards' and the GP was likely a heavy smoker.

Oliver Ford Davies is gently impressive as the gruff but kind-hearted Mister Tom, a man wounded by the loss of his wife and child many years before, who recognises a kindred spirit in timid young William Beech (excellent young actor Oliver Tritton Wheeler on Press night), whose bruises reveal his mother's abuse.

Punt & Dennis, Town Hall, Birmingham

THEY first came to prominence on The Mary Whitehouse Experience. But while Hugh Dennis has continued to be a regular TV feature on programmes such as Outnumbered and Mock the Week, much less has been seen of his comedy partner.

The two have revived their partnership for the first time in four years for their They Should Get Out More tour. Disabilities, ghosts and wines of the world were among the topics covered, complete with a lot of audience interaction – and all to great comic effect.

I wonder what Mary Whitehouse would have made of it?

Mark Shipp

Count Arthur Strong's Command(o) Performance. The New Alex, Birmingham

COUNT Arthur Strong is the greatest variety star there never was.

Notwithstanding someone turning the New Alexandra Theatre around to face the wrong way without telling him, the cult comedy star displayed his cantankerous short temper and dyslexic command of the English language along with a constant stream of Malapropisms which make Doctor Spooner sounds as erudite as Stephen Fry.

Rarely sober or in touch with reality, the count, as Johnny Vegas said via a video screen, has worked with some of the biggest names in showbiz, shame he upset so many of them.

The count has that rare ability not really seen since the days of Tommy

him with. Mister Tom's dog, Sammy, is represented very effectively in all his sniffing, tail-wagging canine character by puppeteer Laura Cubitt.

There is a fine ensemble to play the village children and community stalwarts and Max Longmuir shone as ebullient and erudite new best friend Zach.

Matters take a grim turn when William is called back to London by his mother, the set clanking into a change from bright open stage to the boy's dungeon-like London abode. Aoife Kavanagh's Mrs Beech is all the more chilling, played not as a clear-cut villain but as a woman who is clearly seriously mentally ill.

When Tom and William are finally reunited, it is hard to prevent a lump in the throat or a tear in the eye. This is the first production from The Children's Touring Partnership, which aims to present high quality children's and family drama. They have certainly succeeded.

Leon Burakowski

Cooper et al to stand there doing nothing and still have the audience in fits of laughter. With his parody of Can't Cook, Ready Steady Bloody 123, which never really formulated into a full title, he tried his hand at wine tasting using his sophisticated Pontius palette, who apparently fiddled while Rome burned.

Staggering around the stage like some geriatric throwback to the great days of variety, the count drags the old format kicking and screaming into the 21st century, lubricating the transition with liberal amounts of wine and various other alcoholic beverages.

You haven't lived until you see him act out facing Dracula and keep him talking until daybreak sees the vampire's 'testasticles' rolling down the hill.

Oh, and should the count offer to let you drain his spuds I suggest you decline – if you can stop laughing long enough. For more information visit www.countarthurststrong.com

Danny Farragher

DVD: Buried (15, Icon)

IF you suffer from claustrophobia you had best avoid Buried, out now on DVD and Blu-ray, but do watch if you like an innovative, against-the-clock thriller. Ryan Reynolds plays an American truck driver ambushed in Iraq and buried by insurgents in a coffin, with only a mobile phone and a Zippo lighter at his disposal. He knows he has a limited amount of oxygen, the battery life of his phone is dwindling, and he is being held for ransom.

Director Rodrigo Cortes's cameras never leave the coffin but make a virtue of their limitations as the viewer empathises with the kidnaper victim's utterly terrifying plight... especially when he's put on hold!

Book: Lily Alone (hardback, Doubleday, 12.99)

YOUNG Lily is left to look after her siblings – six-year-old twins and a three-year-old sister – when her mum goes on holiday with her boyfriend and her step dad fails to turn up. Desperate to avoid school or social services finding out, and wanting to avoid the flat getting too untidy, she comes up with a plan to go on a camping adventure in the park.

An intriguing set up for Jacqueline Wilson's latest children's novel, which the hugely popular writer handles in her assured no-nonsense style, blending comedy and tragedy and prompting young readers to think about responsibility. Illustrations by Nick Sharratt.

The Saturdays, Civic Hall, Wolverhampton

WHAT better way to spend Valentine's Day than with your loved one – and the five loveliest ladies in pop. Una, Mollie, Frankie, Vanessa and Rochelle even chose their Headlines tour to bring the news of a new tour in December.

But first this one. The concert began with a Duck Soup-style Barbra Streisand register of names from people in the audience. And from the moment the girls took to the stage with the upbeat Higher, the whole place was rocking. There was also a rousing finale in the form of Ego.

In between, all the hits like Up and Work all received a rapturous welcome, but for me the best harmonies were reserved for Lose Control, Puppet and the Poppy Day single Here Standing.

The quintet – and we all have our favourites – are more than just pretty faces. All can sing and there were well-choreographed dance moves. They also showed they can slow the pace down with a version of the Eminem/Rihanna song Love the Way You Lie. Two other Rihanna covers followed with What's My Name and Only Girl. Died in Your Eyes saw Una playing guitar.

Video footage filled in between costume changes – there were two of them during the main set – while the girls carried balloons on stage for the Comic Relief single I Just Can't Get Enough. Another costume change preceded the encore, which before the big Ego finish, featured Forever Is Over and Missing You.

Mark Shipp

Blood Brothers, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

HAVE you heard the story of the Johnstone brothers? Which means Blood Brothers is back. This emotional masterpiece by Willy Russell is guaranteed to pull at your heart strings, have you laughing and applauding like crazy.

A mix of drama, comedy and song brilliantly performed by a strong and talented cast. The moving story of twins who are separated at birth and whose lives end in tragedy, is set in the backstreets of Liverpool.

Niki Evans gives an excellent performance as Mrs Johnstone and has a fabulous vocal range. Sean Jones and Paul Davies superbly played endearing twins Mickey and Eddie. Craig Price is a clear and competent narrator.

It has poignant songs such as Bright New Day, Marilyn Monroe and, of course, the tear-jerking final one, Tell Me It's Not So, which had the entire audience on its feet for a well deserved standing ovation. Mention must also go to the orchestra and sound engineer for a first class job.

Les Jowett

Cheess, Birmingham Hippodrome

THIS was no darnce disarrster, darling! Famous for songs One Night in Bangkok and I Know Him So Well, the musical by Tim Rice and Abba's Bjorn and Benny has been choreographed by Strictly Come Dancing's Craig Revel Horwood. It tells the story of two chess masters battling it out for the world championships, while at the same time fighting for the love of the same woman.

And what a show it was! Costumes were both extravagant and raunchy, and the way in which the chess pieces danced around the board was mesmerising. A fine cast of West End stars has been assembled, with performances by Daniel Koek and Shona White among the highlights. Poppy Tierney has a fantastic voice and deserved a bigger part.

Mark Shipp

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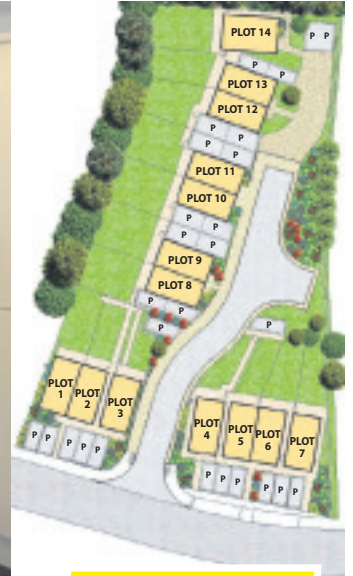
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Sales



3 Bed - Harper Grove
Modern, three storey town house of the 'Jarvis' design, having additional features chosen by the current vendor. Being double glazed, centrally heated and including modern white high gloss kitchen, downstairs w.c., lounge and dining room, 2 bedrooms, family bathroom plus master bedroom with en-suite shower room. Off road parking. NETHERTON OFFICE.

Tipton Offers £130,000



3 Bed - Withymoore Road
This beautifully presented, double glazed, gas centrally heated and alarmed, 1930's semi detached family home having lounge, thoughtfully designed kitchen with family area, conservatory, superb bathroom, rear garden and driveway providing off road parking for a number of vehicles. VIEWING ESSENTIAL! NETHERTON OFFICE.

Netherton £136,500



3 Bed - Dudley Wood Road
Traditional semi detached family home requiring some cosmetic improvement but benefiting from double glazing and gas central heating, with spacious and versatile accommodation to include: Two reception rooms, kitchen, vestibule, rear lobby with downstairs w.c., rear garden with further land to the side, garage and driveway. NETHERTON OFFICE.

Dudley Wood Offers £124,950



1 Bed - Flat 104 Metropolitan Lofts, Parsons Street
Well Presented Apartment. Open Plan Lounge and Kitchen. Bedroom on Mezzanine Floor. Secure Off Street Parking. Telephone Entry System. Popular Location. NETHERTON OFFICE.

Dudley £475 pcm



1 Bed - Flat 1, Ashley House 150 Halesowen Rd
Ground Floor Flat. One Bedroom. Double Glazing. Convenient Location. Secure Off Road Parking To Rear. Available Immediately. DSS Negotiable. NETHERTON OFFICE.

Netherton £395 pcm



2 Bed - St Peters Road
Deceptively Spacious Detached Bungalow. Two Bedrooms. Popular Location. Lounge with Dining Area. Laundry Room. Sun Room. Gardens. Tandem Garage. Generous Gardens. NETHERTON OFFICE.

Netherton £625 pcm



3 Bed - Molyneux Road
On a corner plot with room enough (subject to gaining relevant permissions) for another property. Having downstairs bathroom plus upstairs w.c. central heating and gated off road parking. Viewing a must! NETHERTON OFFICE.

Netherton £104,950



2/3 Bed - Baptist End Road
This charming two/three bed mid terraced home has been totally refurbished and now has a new bathroom, new kitchen, UPVC double glazing and new gas fired central heating. Rear garden with paved patio and lawn. Viewing essential to appreciate size and quality of accommodation on offer. NETHERTON OFFICE.

Netherton Offers £79,950



3 Bed - Milton Street
A new build detached house on a corner plot with the benefit of an attached single garage, landscaped gardens, full floor coverings throughout and an alarm, with ready to move in accommodation with; an open plan lounge, dining area and kitchen layout to the ground floor. W.C. three bedrooms, bathroom. NO UPWARD CHAIN, PART EXCHANGE CONSIDERED.

Pensnett Offers Over £145,000



2 Bed - Apartment 3, Rock Haven Belper Row
Modern Apartment. Two Bedrooms. Communal Gardens. Off Road Parking. Double Glazing. Storage Heating. Viewing Recommended. NETHERTON OFFICE.

Dudley £450 pcm



1 Bed - Flat 12, Harrison Court Harrison Road
This immaculately presented modern second floor apartment situated in Ambleside, comprises of: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom, Double Bedroom, Communal gardens and parking. NO DSS/SMOKERS/PETS.

Stourbridge £385 pcm



3 Bed - Lyttleton Close
Semi-detached. Three Bedrooms. Backwater Location. Conveniently Situated. Two Reception Rooms. Driveway and Garage. Viewing Recommended. NETHERTON OFFICE.

Netherton £595 pcm



2 Bed - Birch Coppice
A charming semi detached cottage style property at this popular address offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN being presented to a good standard and comprising: Lounge, Dining Kitchen, Utility, Shower Room, Landing, Two Double Bedrooms, Courtyard Garden. Viewing via Stourbridge Office.

Brierley Hill £109,950



3 Bed - Bower Lane
Situated in a pleasant part of Quarry Bank and convenient for buses, trains, shops and schools this well presented detached house comprises: Entrance porch, Hallway, Dining kitchen, Lounge, Master bedroom with En-suite, Bathroom, driveway, enclosed rear garden with a large modern timber workshop. Viewing essential via STOURBRIDGE office.

Brierley Hill £162,500



4 Bed - Elgar Crescent
An extended David Payne Four bedroom detached property offering spacious family accommodation comprising: Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen, Utility, W.C., Conservatory, Family Bathroom, En-suite, Loft Room, Driveway, Garage, rear garden. Viewing recommended via STOURBRIDGE office.

Pensnett £209,950



2 Bed - 113 Foxdale Drive Cricketfields
A two bedroom first floor apartment comprising: Hallway, Dining Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom, [Two Bedrooms, Electric heating, double glazed. Part Furnished, NO DSS/SMOKERS or PETS.

Brierley hill £420 pcm



2 Bed - Evers Street
An extended two bedroom semi-detached home DG/GCH comprises: Hall, lounge, sitting room with dining area off and kitchen, two bedrooms and shower room on the first floor, outside there is a driveway and garden to the front and side and a decent sized private rear garden.

Brierley Hill £525 pcm



3 bed - King Street
Three Bedroom, Mid Terrace, Two Reception Rooms, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Central Location, Close to Local Transport Links.

Stourbridge £480 pcm



2 Bed - Chapel Street
A well presented traditional Mid terraced house comprising: Dining Room, Lounge, Cellar, extended Dining Kitchen. VIEWING VIA STOURBRIDGE OFFICE

Brierley Hill £95,000



2/3 Bed - Woodhouse Way
Well presented property benefiting from restyled kitchen, double glazing, gas fired central heating and off road parking to fore. Being conveniently situated for local schools and amenities, viewing is highly recommended. NETHERTON OFFICE.

Cradley Heath £129,950



2 bed - Birch Crescent
Refurbished traditional property comprising: Entrance hall, open plan lounge/diner with kitchen off. Double glazed and gas central heating. Off road parking. HALESOWEN OFFICE

Tivdale £114,950



1 Bed - Bagleys Road
An immaculately presented, one bedroom, ground floor apartment with off road parking and double-glazing.

Brierley Hill £375 pcm



3 Bed - Pottery Road
Three Bedroomed Maisonette. Convenient Location. Spacious Accommodation. Central Heating. Double Glazing. Early Viewing Strongly Recommended. HALESOWEN OFFICE.

Oldbury £475 pcm



3 Bed - Throne Road
Traditional Three Bedroom Mid Town House - Gas Central Heating - UPVC Double Glazing - Benefit of Parking to Rear - DSS Negotiable | Pets Negotiable | No Smoking. HALESOWEN OFFICE.

Rowley Regis £550 pcm



2 Bed - Pennicricket Lane
A very well presented two bedroom detached bungalow, briefly comprising of entrance hall, dining kitchen, lounge, low maintenance rear garden, gas central heating, double glazing along with a driveway and garage. HALESOWEN OFFICE.

Rowley Regis £139,950



3 Bed - Oakdale Road
Deceptively spacious three bedroom property. Two reception rooms. First floor bathroom with separate w.c. Off road parking for two cars. Double glazed and gas central heating. HALESOWEN OFFICE.

Oldbury £109,950



4 Bed - Compton Grove
Well presented property benefiting from double glazing, central heating, garage to rear and front and rear gardens. Being conveniently situated, viewing is highly recommended. HALESOWEN OFFICE.

Halesowen £132,950



3 bed - Windmill Hill
Traditional property. Three bedrooms. Lounge/dining room. Utility room. Rear Garden. Early viewing recommended. HALESOWEN OFFICE.

Halesowen £575 pcm



2 Bed - New Birmingham Road
First Floor Apartment. Excellent Order. Two Bedrooms. Master Bedroom with Fitted Wardrobes. Garage. Communal Parking and Gardens. HALESOWEN OFFICE.

Oldbury £550 pcm



2 Bed - Mossvale Close
Maisonette. Two Bedrooms. Kitchen with Built-in Appliances. Car Port. DSS Negotiable. Convenient Location. Viewing Recommended. HALESOWEN OFFICE.

Cradley Heath £495 pcm

**GORNAL
ROBERT STREET**

Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/diner, utility area, four bedrooms, double glazing, gas central heating, garage. Unfurnished

£650 pcm**KINGSWINFORD
RANGES ROAD**

Ground Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, Bedroom, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Carpets & Curtains, Unfurnished

£375 pcm**KINGSWINFORD
RANGWAYS ROAD**

Ground floor flat. Lounge/diner, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom with shower, garage, electric heating, double glazing, Carpets. Unfurnished, No Pets.

£475 pcm**KINGSWINFORD
FAIRLAWN DRIVE**

Semi Detached Bungalow, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Carpets & Curtains, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking

£610 pcm**KINGSWINFORD
GRANTLEY CRESCENT**

DETACHED Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Dining Area, Cloakroom, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Carpets & Curtains, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking.

£750 pcm**GREAT BRIDGE
EAGLE PLACE**

Modern Apartment, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Off Road Parking

£370 pcm**NETHERTON
PARK ROAD**

First Floor Flat, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Double Glazing, Electric Heating, Carpets & Curtains, Unfurnished

£350 pcm**ROWLEY REGIS
STUART ROAD**

Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Carpets & Curtains, Front & Rear Gardens

£585 pcm**HALESOWEN
BLAGDON ROAD**

Ground Floor Flat, Large Lounge, Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Carpets & Curtains, Unfurnished, Single Garage Available Immediately

£525 pcm**OLDBURY
MORGAN CLOSE**

Modern End Terrace, Lounge, Kitchen, WC, Store, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Carpets & Curtains

£525 pcm**COSELEY
SALCOMBE GROVE**

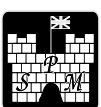
Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Carpets & Curtains, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Gardens

£545 pcm**BRIERLEY HILL
DADFORD VIEW**

Cluster Home, Lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, unfurnished, off road parking, double glazing, DSS considered.

£460 pcm**Select**

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F: 01384 277720**DUDLEY
IVANHOE STREET**

Terrace Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Dining Room, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Carpets & Curtains, Unfurnished

£435 pcm**WOMBOURNE
FORGE VALLEY WAY**

Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Front, Side & Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking

£650 pcm**WORDSLEY
STREAM ROAD**

End terrace property, Lounge, kitchen/diner, off buildings, bathroom with shower, two double bedrooms, gas central heating, double glazing, carpets & curtains, Unfurnished, Rear gardens.

£525 pcm**RUSSELLS HALL
LANGSTONE ROAD**

Semi-detached property, Lounge, dining room, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, double glazing, front and rear gardens, carpets and curtains. Unfurnished.

£510 pcm**TIPTON
HOPKINS STREET**

Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, WC, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Carpets & Curtains, Unfurnished

£525 pcm**BRIERLEY HILL
FOXDALE DRIVE**

Cluster style house, Lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom with shower. Unfurnished, Double glazing, front garden, allocated parking.

£450 pcm**WOLVERHAMPTON
VICTORIA ROAD**

Terraced House, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, Cloakroom, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Carpets and Curtains, Rear Garden, Unfurnished

£575 pcm**DUDLEY
THE PARADE**

Semi-detached, Lounge, kitchen, dining room, bathroom with shower, three bedrooms, gas central heating, double glazing, carpets and curtains. Unfurnished. DSS considered. No pets

£550 pcm**WALL HEATH
ALBION PARADE**

Maisonette, Lounge, kitchen, bathroom with shower, three bedrooms, double glazing, parking, carpets and curtains. No pets.

£495 pcm**KINGSWINFORD
COT LANE**

Detached Bungalow, Large Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Carpets & Curtains, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Front & Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking

£695 pcm**BRIERLEY HILL
BELL STREET**

Ground Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Conservatory, Large Cellar, Gas Central Heating, Carpets & Curtains

£425 pcm**GORNAL
REDHALL ROAD**

Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Carpets & Curtains, Unfurnished

£650 pcm

K. Stuart Swash

PROPERTY AUCTION

41 FRASER STREET, BILSTON

Well located Mid Terrace for modernisation

**Viewing:
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February at
10.00 am**

Guide: £58,000/£63,000**77B STAFFORD STREET, WILLENHALL**

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**Viewing:
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Guide: £50,000/£60,000**246 BIRMINGHAM NEW ROAD,
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SHAW ROAD, WOLVERHAMPTON**

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18th February
at 2.00 pm or by
appointment**

Guide: £70,000/£80,000**36 CANTERBURY ROAD, PENN**

3 bed Semi for Modernisation

**Viewing:
Friday &
Saturday
18th & 19th
February at
11.45 am**

Guide: £115,000/£125,000**VIEWINGS OF ALL LOTS
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A spacious attractive family home located on the popular 'Clockfields' estate. The house briefly comprises of hallway, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, utility room, downstairs wc, ensuite to master bedroom, garage, driveway and gardens to front and rear.

£235,000



A three bed detached house with extensive gardens to the rear and side. Briefly comprising 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen, downstairs WC, 3 bedrooms, bathroom with separate WC. Double glazing (where specified) with feature leaded glazed windows and central heating. Viewing highly recommended. No upward chain.

£162,250



A three bedroom semi detached house with hallway, lounge, fitted kitchen, conservatory, second reception room, driveway and garden to the rear.

£139,950



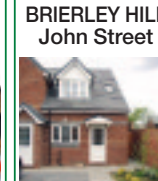
A deceptively spacious traditional mid terraced house with many original features. The house briefly comprises of lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, cellar, three bedrooms on the first floor plus a further attic room, gardens to front and rear and a double garage through secure access.

£135,000



A three bedroom semi detached house with lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, upstairs bathroom, driveway and garden to the rear. Viewing is essential.

£124,950



A modern two bedroom end terraced house with hallway, downstairs wc, lounge, fitted kitchen, driveway and garden to rear.

£115,000



A three bedroom semi detached house with hallway, lounge, dining kitchen and garden to the rear.

£109,950



Three bedroom semi detached house with hallway, lounge, dining kitchen, upstairs bathroom and garden to rear.

£99,950



Three bedroom semi detached house with lounge, fitted breakfast kitchen, upstairs bathroom and garden to rear.

£99,950



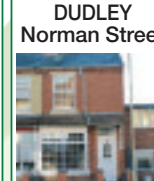
A three bedroom detached house with lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, good sized cellar and a rear yard area with garage/workshop.

£99,950



Four bedroom mid terraced house with two reception rooms, kitchen and two bathrooms, garden and double garage to rear.

£99,950



An impressive two bedroom end terraced house in immaculate condition with accommodation over three floors briefly comprising of lounge, dining room, upstairs bathroom, downstairs shower room, utility area, dining kitchen and a garden to rear. Viewing is essential.

£99,950



A three bedroom semi detached house with hallway, lounge, dining room, upstairs bathroom with separate toilet and garden to the rear.

£95,000 offers over



A semi detached dormer bungalow with kitchen, utility, lounge, two bedrooms, dining room, shower/WC, garden to rear and driveway to front.

£90,000



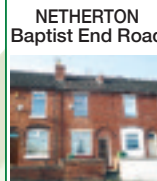
A three bed semi detached house with double glazing (where specified) and gas heating, two reception rooms downstairs, a fitted kitchen, upstairs having two double bedrooms and a further single bedroom with house bathroom with shower over the bath. Gardens to front and rear.

£89,950



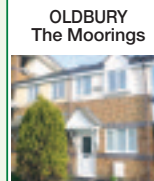
A two bedroom mid terraced house with lounge, dining room, kitchen with utility area and garden to the rear.

£79,950



A two bedroom mid terraced house with hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen with dining area, downstairs bathroom and a garden to the rear.

£79,950



A one bedroom end terraced house with open plan lounge and kitchen, upstairs bathroom, allocated parking and a garden to rear.

£75,950



A three bedroom mid terraced house with lounge, dining room, kitchen, downstairs bathroom and a yard area to the rear.

£57,500



A two bedroom mid terraced house with lounge, dining kitchen, upstairs bathroom and garden to rear. Ideal investment as sitting tenant.

£54,950



A three bedroom semi detached house having lounge/ diner, en-suite bathroom to master bedroom, driveway and garage. Garden to rear, unfurnished, available now.

£575 PCM



A spacious family home with double glazing and central heating. Two reception rooms, large fitted kitchen, Separate utility with wc off, three bedrooms. Available now.

£550 PCM



A two bed property comprising a spacious lounge with feature fireplace, a breakfast/dining kitchen, large conservatory with views to the garden, house bathroom. Double glazing and centrally heated, unfurnished, available now.

£550 PCM



A fully refurbished 3 bedroomed and terrace property, with lounge and separate dining room, downstairs WC and bathroom. Brand new fitted kitchen with cooker. Courtyard to side of property. Double glazed and centrally heated. Available now for long term.

£550 PCM



A modern two bedroom ground floor apartment with open plan dining kitchen and lounge, master bedroom having en-suite, allocated parking and is within walking distance of the town centre. Available now.

£550 PCM



A three bedroom semi detached house with two reception rooms, kitchen, central heating and double glazing. Available now, DSS considered with guarantor.

£545 PCM



A modern two bedroom end terrace house with garage and parking. Double glazing and central heating, through lounge/ diner. Modern fitted kitchen. Two double bedrooms.

£525 PCM



A nicely presented three bedroom semi detached house. Lounge with sofa, dining kitchen with table and chairs and a built in cooker. Separate utility and downstairs wc. Available now.

£500 PCM



A modern first floor apartment having central heating and double glazing. Lounge/ diner, open plan fitted kitchen, double bedroom with wardrobe and storage cupboard. Available now.

£495 PCM



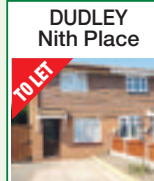
A modern coach house style first floor apartment. Having double glazing, electric heating, good size lounge/ diner. Two bedrooms, available now. Viewing highly recommended.

£495 PCM



A three bedroom mid terrace house having double glazing and central heating. Two reception rooms, kitchen, downstairs bathroom and separate w/c. Available now, DSS considered.

£495 PCM



A two bedroom semi detached house having double glazing, electric heating, lounge, fitted kitchen. Bathroom with shower. Off street parking.

£495 PCM



A modern two bed end terrace house, having double glazing, electric storage/ panel heating. Lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom. DSS considered with guarantor.

£475 PCM



A two bedroom semi detached property, having double glazing, two reception rooms, off road parking. Available for long term let.

£475 PCM



A two bedroom terrace house having large lounge, kitchen, bathroom, two double bedroom, patio to rear. DSS considered.

£450 PCM



A two bed luxury loft apartment, fully fitted kitchen inc fridge/freezer, shower room, lounge/dining kitchen, great views. Part furnished, secure entry, viewing recommended. Secure parking available. Available in March. No DSS.

£450 PCM



A modern first floor maisonette in a cul-de-sac location. Having good size lounge, fitted kitchen with appliances, two bedrooms. Part furnished, allocated parking, available now. No DSS.

£450 PCM



First floor two bedroom flat. Lounge and two bedrooms on the first floor. Kitchen and utility on the ground floor. Central heating and double glazing. Private entrance to the rear. Parking available at the front. No DSS. No Pets. Available now.

£425 PCM



A one bedroom first floor flat in quiet location. Open plan with lounge/ diner/ kitchen, bedroom and shower and wc. Electric storage heating. Available now.

£395 PCM



A one double bedroom first floor flat, having shower/ wc, fitted kitchen with appliances, plenty of storage. DSS considered.

£385 PCM



A one bedroom first floor apartment having double glazing, electric storage/ panel heating, lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom. Available now, DSS considered with guarantor.

£375 PCM



A modern one bedroom ground floor apartment. Lounge, kitchen, bathroom, available now. DSS considered with a guarantor.

£375 PCM

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**OAKHAM**

ELIZABETH GROVE
• Bay Fronted Extended Detached Three Bedrooms Lounge & Extended Kitchen/Dining Room Study Ground Floor
• Cloakroom/WC Dressing Area Leading From Bed
• 3xGCH System & D/G Where Stated Driveway

£240,000 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**HURST HILL**

ROWAN CRESCENT
• Three Bedroom Semi Detached Lounge Kitchen
• Diner To Rear Bathroom Upstairs GCH System
• D/G Where Stated Extensive Rear
• Garden Garage Driveway For 2-3 Cars

£149,950 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**TIPTON**

NEW BIRMINGHAM ROAD
• Two Bedroom Semi Detached Bungalow
• Lounge Kitchen Bathroom
• GCH System Part D/G
• Garage & Driveway

£134,950 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**LOWER GORNAL**

WHITEBEAM CLOSE
• Two Bedroom Mid Terrace Lounge
• Overlooking Rear Garden Fitted Kitchen • Gas
• Central Heating System • Double Glazed Where
• Stated • Rear Garden • Cul-De-Sac Location

£109,950 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**DUDLEY**

LILAC ROAD
• Three Bedroom Semi
• Detached Lounge Kitchen To Rear Ground
• Floor Bathroom GCH System In Need Of
• Modernizing No Chain

£55,000 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**TIVIDALE**

CITY ROAD
• Extended Semi Detached Two Bedrooms Fitted
• Kitchen Extended Dining Games Room Extended
• First Floor Bathroom Lounge Utility Room GCH
• System D/G Where Stated Rear Garden

£90,000 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**MILKING BANK**

SALISBURY CLOSE
• Detached Residence Three Bedrooms Lounge &
• Separate Dining Room Kitchen Enclosed Porch Ground
• Floor Cloakroom GCH System D/G Where Stated Views
• To Fore Cul-De-Sac Driveway & Garage

£169,950 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**TIPTON**

SUMMERHILL ROAD
• Semi Detached Three
• Bedrooms Lounge Dining Area Double
• Glazing Where Stated In Need Of
• Updating No Chain

£64,950 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**DUDLEY**

BUXTON ROAD
• Two Bedroom Property Lounge & Dining
• Room Fitted Kitchen GCH System Double
• Glazing Where Stated First Floor Bathroom

£84,950 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**DUDLEY**

WOODLAND AVENUE
• Extended Three Bedroom Bay Fronted Semi Detached Lounge
• Extended Kitchen Dining Room Ground Floor Shower Room
• First Floor Bathroom Gas Central Heating Double Glazed
• Where Stated Front And Rear Garden Garage Driveway

£164,950 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**REGENT AVENUE**

TIVIDALE
• Bay Fronted Semi Detached Three Bedrooms •
• Lounge & Kitchen/Diner • Conservatory • Bathroom
• GCH System & Double Glazing Where
• Stated Driveway • Cul-De-Sac Location No Chain

£125,000 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**DUDLEY**

HAZEL ROAD
• Bay Fronted Three Bedroom Detached • Two
• Reception Rooms Kitchen • Gas Central Heating
• System • Double Glazed Where Stated • Rear
• Garden Having Lawn & Patio • Garage • Driveway

£169,950 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**KINGSWINFORD**

VERONICA ROAD
• Extended Three Double Bedroom Detached
• Lounge/Sitting Room Bathroom Toilet Downstairs
• Front And Rear Garden Driveway Garage No
• Upward Chain In a Cul-De-Sac Location

£182,950 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**TIVIDALE**

OAK CRESCENT
• Three Bedroom Bay Fronted Detached Lounge
• Fitted Dining Kitchen Re-fitted Family Bathroom
• Cloakroom/WC • Conservatory • Gas Central
• Heating Double Glazed Where Stated Driveway

£164,950 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**DUDLEY**

THE BROADWAY
• Three Bedroom Extended Semi Detached Lounge/dining room,
• Kitchen and extended dining room Family Bathroom/WC
• Driveway giving access to the garage to the front and garden to the
• rear Double glazing where stated and Gas Central Heating System

£165,000 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**DUDLEY**

MANSION CLOSE
• Three Bedroom Detached Cloakroom/WC Lounge, dining
• room and kitchen master bedroom with en suite shower/WC
• Front and Rear Garden Driveway and garage Double
• glazing as stated and gas central heating system

£189,995 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**NETHERTON**

BRATCH CLOSE
• Three Bedroom Semi Detached Through
• Lounge/Dining Room Fitted Kitchen GCH
• System Double Glazing Where Stated Garage Cul-
• De-Sac Location Viewing Recommended

£129,950 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**ROWLEY REGIS**

HAILSTONE CLOSE
• Three Bedroom Link Semi Detached • Two
• Reception Rooms • Utility Room/Ground Floor WC
• Bathroom • Gas Central Heating Double Glazed
• Garage/Driveway Front And Rear Garden

£149,950 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**HEMPOLE LANE**

GREAT BRIDGE
• Mid Terraced Residence Three
• Bedrooms Lounge Kitchen First
• Floor Bathroom GCH System D/G Where
• Stated Rear Garden Driveway

£115,000 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**TIPTON**

NEWCOMEN DRIVE
• Extended Detached Residence Four Bedrooms En Suite
• To Bedroom One Front & Extended Rear Reception
• Rooms Kitchen & Utility Ground Floor Cloakroom/D/G
• Where Stated & GCH System Garage Driveway

£212,000 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**DUDLEY**

ST MARKS ROAD
• Three Bedroom Mid Terrace Lounge
• Kitchen First Floor Bathroom Gas Central
• Heating Double Glazed Where Stated Front
• And Rear Garden Driveway

£110,000 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**NETHERTON**

RACEMEADOW CRESCENT
• Modern Three Bedroom Townhouse • En-
• Suites To Bedrooms 1 & 2 • Lounge, Fitted
• Breakfast Kitchen, Utility Room • Garage,
• Rear Garden & Driveway

£154,950 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**DUDLEY**

BLUEBELL ROAD
• Mid Terraced Residence Three
• Bedrooms Lounge & Kitchen Ground Floor
• Bathroom GCH System D/G Where
• Stated No Chain

£66,950 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**GORNAL ROAD**

HIMLEY ROAD
• Extended Bay Fronted Semi Detached Three
• Bedrooms Two Reception Rooms Extended Kitchen/Diner
• Ground Floor Cloakroom GCH System D/G Where
• Stated Garage Viewing Recommended

£189,950 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**TIVIDALE**

BIRCH CRESCENT
• Two Bedroom Semi Detached Lounge And Extended
• Dining Kitchen • Bathroom Upstairs • Double Glazing
• And Gas Central Heating System. Driveway Providing
• Off Road Parking And Enclosed Rear Garden

£550 PCM DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**DUDLEY**

SELBOURNE ROAD
• 5 Bedroom Three Storey Townhouse
• 2 Reception Rooms
• Downstairs Shower Room and First Floor Bathroom
• Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing

£650 PCM DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**DUDLEY**

CLARENS STREET
• Two Bedroom Mid Terrace Lounge
• Kitchen • Ground Floor Bathroom • Gas
• Central Heating Double Glazed Where
• Stated Front And Rear Garden

£450 PCM DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**TIVIDALE**

DARBY'S HILL ROAD
• Two Bedroom Detached Bungalow Lounge
• Breakfast Kitchen Bathroom • Cloakroom
• Front and Rear Garden Driveway

£650 PCM DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

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**DUDLEY**

ATTINGHAM DRIVE
• An upper floor studio apartment which is beautifully
• presented having fitted kitchen, lounge area having hidden pull
• down bed, shower room, electric heating and double glazing.
• The property comes with allocated parking for one car

£395 PCM DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**TIPTON**

ST HELENS AVENUE
• A Two Bedroom Mid Terrace Fitted Kitchen
• Lounge overlooking rear garden having decking &
• lawn • Bathroom. Other features include gas central
• heating, double glazing and parking

£525 DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**TIVIDALE**

BIRCH CRESCENT
• An Two Bedroom Semi Detached Decent Kitchen
• Ground Floor Cloakroom extension, through lounge
• having patio doors to garden, gas central heating and
• double glazing Rear Garden And Driveway

£550 PCM DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

**TIPTON**

MENIN ROAD
• Three Bedroom Mid Terrace Lounge/Diner
• Breakfast Kitchen • Ground Floor Bathroom
• Gas Central Heating Double Glazed Where
• Stated Front And Rear Garden

£475 PCM DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

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RODENBOYDELL

SEDGLEY



NORTHWAY

A four-bedroom detached home that briefly comprises a reception hall, a lounge, a separate sitting room, a dining area, a magnificent kitchen with a comprehensive range of integrated appliances, a downstairs w/c, a utility room with access to a storage room, a master bedroom en-suite, three further bedrooms, a family bathroom, UPVC double-glazing where stated, gas fired central heating and a pleasant rear garden.

£231,950

LOWER GORNAL



COTWALL END ROAD

A two bedroom detached bungalow that briefly comprises a reception porch, a reception hall, a spacious lounge, a fitted breakfast kitchen, two double bedrooms, a bathroom, gas fired central heating, double glazing, a garage and a pleasant rear garden.

£229,950

SOVEREIGN HEIGHTS



ATTINGHAM DRIVE

A four bedroom detached home that briefly comprises a reception hall, a guest cloakroom, a lounge, a magnificent open plan dining room/fitted kitchen, a utility room, a master bedroom en suite, three further good sized bedrooms, a family bathroom, UPVC double glazing, gas fired central heating, a garage and a pleasant rear garden.

£224,950

HIGHGATE PARK



CHILLINGTON DRIVE

A four bedroom detached home that briefly comprises a reception hall, a guest cloakroom, a spacious lounge with patio doors leading to the rear garden, a dining room, a superb fitted breakfast kitchen, a utility room a master bedroom en suite, three further good sized bedrooms, a family bathroom, double glazing, gas fired central heating, a garage and a lovely rear garden.

£222,500

LARKS VIEW



RICHBOROUGH DRIVE

A four bedroom detached home that briefly comprises a reception hall, a guest cloakroom, a lounge, a dining room, a fitted kitchen with a range of integrated appliances, a utility room, a master bedroom en suite, three further good sized bedrooms, a family bathroom, UPVC double glazing where stated, gas fired central heating, a garage and a rear garden.

£204,950

LOWER GORNAL



COTWALL END ROAD

A two bedroom detached bungalow that briefly comprises: Reception porch, reception hall, lounge with an archway leading to a dining area, study / sitting room, fitted breakfast kitchen with a range of integrated appliances, two bedrooms, bathroom, double glazing, gas fired central heating, carport, garage and a pleasant rear garden.

£199,950

LOWER GORNAL



LADBROOK GROVE

A two bedroom detached bungalow that briefly comprises a reception hall, a lounge, a dining room, a superb fitted breakfast kitchen with a range of integrated appliances, two bedrooms, a shower room, uPVC double-glazing, gas fired central heating, a garage and a pleasant rear garden.

£199,950

SEDGLEY



NORTHWAY

A three / four bedroom dormer bungalow that briefly comprises an L-shaped reception hall, a lounge, a separate sitting room, a dining room / bedroom four, a fitted kitchen with integrated appliances, three bedrooms, a bathroom, UPVC double-glazing where stated, gas fired central heating, a garage and a rear garden.

£181,950

SEDGLEY



ASHEN CLOSE

A three bedroom detached bungalow that briefly comprises a reception porch, a lounge, a dining kitchen, three bedrooms, a bathroom, double glazing to most of the windows, gas fired central heating, a detached garage and a pleasant rear garden.

£179,950

SEDGLEY



BROWNSWALL ROAD

A three bedroom semi-detached home that briefly comprises a reception hall, a lounge with open access into the conservatory, a dining room, a fitted kitchen with integrated appliances, three bedrooms, a bathroom, double glazing where stated, gas fired central heating, a garage and a pleasant rear garden.

£169,950

SEDGLEY



SANDYFIELDS ROAD

A three bedroom semi-detached home that briefly comprises a reception porch, a reception hall, a lounge, a fitted kitchen, a dining/sitting room, three bedrooms, a bathroom, double glazing, a 33ft garage with a workshop behind and a pleasant rear garden.

£156,950

COSELEY



ACACIA DRIVE

A three bedroom semi-detached home that briefly comprises: Reception porch, reception hall, lounge, separate sitting room with an archway leading to the dining area, a superb fitted kitchen, downstairs shower room, three bedrooms, a bathroom, uPVC double glazing (where stated), gas-fired central heating and a pleasant rear garden.

£139,950

FAIRVIEW PARK



MANDERSTON CLOSE

A two bedroom semi-detached home that briefly comprises a lounge, a spacious dining kitchen, an inner hallway, a downstairs wc, two good sized bedrooms, a bathroom, UPVC double glazing, gas fired central heating, a rear garden and an adjacent double carport area that provides parking for two cars.

£129,950

SEDGLEY



ARCAL STREET

A two bedroom semi-detached home that briefly comprises a reception hall, a spacious lounge, a superb fitted kitchen with a range of integrated appliances, a conservatory, two double bedrooms, a bathroom, UPVC double glazing, gas fired central heating, a double width driveway and a good sized rear garden.

£124,950

LOWER GORNAL



THORNLEIGH

A two bedroom semi-detached home that briefly comprises a reception hall, a spacious lounge, a fitted kitchen with a range of integrated appliances, two bedrooms, a bathroom, double glazing, gas fired central heating, a driveway and a pleasant rear garden.

£117,950

PRIORY GATE



RICHBOROUGH DRIVE

A two bedroom mews style home that briefly comprises a reception hall, a lounge, a conservatory, a fitted breakfast kitchen with a range of integrated appliances, two bedrooms, a bathroom, uPVC double glazing, gas fired central heating, a rear garden and allocated parking for two cars.

£115,950

WOODSETTON



PERKINS CLOSE

A three bedroom mid terraced home that briefly comprises: Reception porch, reception hall, guest cloakroom, spacious lounge / dining room, fitted kitchen, storage area, three bedrooms, bathroom, UPVC double glazing (where stated), gas-fired central heating and a rear garden.

£109,950

HURST HILL



HOLLYWELL STREET

A one bedroom first floor flat that briefly comprises a reception hall, a lounge, a superb fitted kitchen with a range of integrated appliances, a bedroom, a storage cupboard, a bathroom, uPVC double glazing, gas fired central heating and communal gardens.

£76,950

TO LET



GOSPEL END VILLAGE

A well presented three bedroom detached residence situated close to stunning countryside, beautiful walks and good schools. The property briefly comprises a through lounge/dining room, breakfast kitchen with appliances, a unique converted basement leading to garden with adjacent office and cellar. Upstairs, as well as three bedrooms there is a bathroom with shower. A delightful rear garden backing onto open countryside, garage and off road parking for four cars.

£625 pcm

TO LET



UPPER GORNAL

A beautifully presented two bedroomed terrace home with many original features. Situated in popular residential area with pleasant views and within easy reach of all local amenities. The property comprises a lovely lounge with coal effect gas fire, pleasant dining room leading to kitchen with appliances and downstairs bathroom. Two large bedrooms are situated on the first floor. The property has a secluded rear garden.

£550 pcm

TO LET



UPPER GORNAL

We are pleased to have this stunning refurbished Victorian two bedroomed house to let. This property has been sympathetically restored to a high standard and benefits from two lovely reception rooms leading to a newly fitted kitchen with appliances, and modern white suited bathroom with shower. On the first floor are two double bedrooms. To the rear of the property is a neat rear garden. We strongly recommend early viewing of this property.

£525 pcm

TO LET



PENN

This lovely one bedroomed first floor apartment is available to let. This fashionable accommodation boasts a large lounge leading to compact kitchen. A large double bedroom and a neat shower room are also offered. The premises are ideally placed on a bus route to Wolverhampton city centre and are close to all local amenities. The premises are securely monitored at all times. Laundry facilities and on site activities are available to residents and ample off road parking. Please note this apartment is available to over 55s only

£525 pcm

TO LET



SOVEREIGN HEIGHTS

This lovely two bedroomed first floor apartment is available to let. This fashionable accommodation boasts a large lounge with French windows, fully fitted kitchen, a double bedroom, a single bedroom and a family bathroom. There is allocated parking and secure access. This apartment would suit a professional couple or single. Viewing recommended.

£450 pcm

TO LET



UPPER GORNAL

A delightful one bedroom first floor flat set in idyllic surroundings with beautiful open views. The flat has been tastefully decorated and boasts a modern bathroom and kitchen with appliances. There is a good sized double bedroom and equally substantial living area, would suit single person or professional couple. The property is close to all amenities and the village of Upper Gornal. To appreciate what the flat has to offer we recommend viewing.

£425 pcm

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KINGSWINFORD**818 High Street****01384 401777****BRIERLEY HILL****84-86 High Street****01384 265265****STOURBRIDGE****85 High Street****01384 395555****6 LOCAL OFFICES WORKING HARDER FOR BUYERS & SELLERS****KINGSWINFORD****'Orchard House' 169 Barnett Lane**

A HUGE AND SUBSTANTIALLY EXTENDED, INDIVIDUAL FIVE BEDROOM DETACHED FAMILY HOME which enjoys a much sought after setting set beyond the LARGE IN AND OUT DRIVEWAY and offering an EXCEPTIONALLY SPACIOUS AND EXTREMELY WELL PROPORTIONED layout of accommodation which has much potential, REQUIRING UPDATING, the accommodation comprising: Entrance Porch, reception hall, large sitting room, GENEROUS SPLIT LEVEL SECOND SITTING ROOM WITH DINING ROOM AREA off, spacious breakfast kitchen, utility, w.c., FIVE SUPERB BEDROOMS and bathroom. This superb property has scope for further extension (subject to consent) and is further enhanced by the GARAGE and LARGE LEVEL REAR/SIDE GARDENS, with sunny aspect. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

Price: Offers Around £349,950 invited

KINGSWINFORD**97 Ploverdale Crescent**

An IMMACULATE DAVID PAYNE DETACHED FAMILY HOME which is further enhanced by the PRIVATE REAR ASPECT, BACKING ONTO TREES, offering a GENEROUS layout of tastefully decorated and BEAUTIFULLY RE-APPOINTED ACCOMMODATION including GAS CENTRAL HEATING, REPLACEMENT UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING comprising: reception hall, very large lounge, LUXURY REFITTED BREAKFAST KITCHEN with integrated appliances, separate utility, ground floor w.c., LARGE CONSERVATORY, THREE BEDROOMS and REFITTED BATHROOM. The property is set back beyond the large block paved driveway with SIZE GARAGE and a GOOD SIZED LEVEL REAR GARDEN with a sunny aspect. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

Price: £209,950

DUDLEY**Gatcombe Road, Milking Bank**

A delightful, exceptionally well presented & significantly enhanced, freehold, gas centrally heated & UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED McLean built Bungalow detached in favoured cul de sac. Superb accommodation includes entrance porch, inner hall, elegant through living/dining room (previously separate rooms) with 'Minister' style fireplace with living flame gas fire & a bay to the lounge & double opening french doors to garden in dining room section, upgraded kitchen with integrated oven, hob & filter, pantry, laundry, reappointed cloakroom. Principal bedroom with double wardrobe & reappointed shower room en suite, three additional bedrooms, upgraded bathroom, garage, block paved driveway, secluded rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £209,950

DUDLEY**Chillington Drive, Milking Bank neighbourhood**

An enhanced, gas centrally heated, & double glazed detached envially situated at head of relatively quiet cul-de-sac with good distant views, and within walking distance of so many amenities/facilities. Accommodation includes: reception hall, fitted cloakroom, separate dining room with bay, stylish lounge with living flame feature gas fire, bay (and double doors out to garden), L shape breakfast kitchen with oven, hob & filter, laundry. Garage sub-divided to create further utility room, & a study/office. Four bedrooms (principal bedroom with mirrored wardrobes & a reappointed shower room en suite), reappointed bathroom with a white suite. Gardens. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £209,950

DUDLEY**Aintree Way, Milking Bank**

A tremendously enhanced, ENLARGED & significantly improved, freehold, gas centrally heated & UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED detached family home presented in exemplary order throughout close to so many amenities and with good distant views. Superb accommodation includes hall, elegant lounge with feature 'arts & crafts' fireplace and walk in bay, dining room, upgraded kitchen with various integrated appliances, stone, enlarged laundry and spacious 'family room' (possibly as a granny suite/fifth bedroom/playroom/office). To the first floor are four bedrooms (principal bedroom with shower room en suite) and exceptionally stylish/reappointed bathroom with white suite. Landscaped 'low maintenance' gardens. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £203,000

WORDSLEY**21 Hollyhurst Drive**

Constructed by respected David Payne, this BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED, MODERN THREE STOREY, THREE / FOUR BEDROOM TOWNHOUSE enjoys a superb cul de sac setting and offers an INCREDIBLY SPACIOUS and VERSATILE layout of accommodation including GAS CENTRAL HEATING, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING and comprising: entrance hall, reception hall, ground floor w.c., utility room, bedroom 4, study / bedroom, SPACIOUS & ATTRACTIVE LOUNGE, separate formal dining room, BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED KITCHEN with integrated appliances, first floor w.c., TWO GOOD SIZED SECOND FLOOR BEDROOMS (master with en-suite shower room and classic white house bathroom. Presently set back beyond trees with established trees, the property has a landscaped garden and to the rear enjoys a PLEASANTLY LAD OUT REAR GARDEN with patio / lawn, being near access to a GARAGE and benefiting from TWO ALLOCATED OFF-ROAD PARKING SPACES. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

Price: £189,950

DUDLEY**Paganel Drive**

A meticulously maintained, EXTENDED, gas centrally heated & UPVC double glazed traditional semi detached of character presented in exemplary order throughout with a number of unsold period features. Accommodation provides entrance porch, imposing reception hall (offly ceiling height & oak stripped floor), fitted cloakroom, elegant dining room with bay, 10ft lounge with bay (and patio doors to garden), extended recently refitted 18ft breakfast kitchen with a fine range of 'retro-cinema' finish units. Three generous bedrooms (all with fitted built-in units), reappointed bathroom with white suite, separate toilet, large garage & useful utility/laundry room beyond. Lengthy secluded well tended rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £186,950

WALL HEATH VILLAGE**34 Beachcroft Road**

Exceptionally well placed within this highly sought after address within Wall Heath Village, this TRADITIONAL, SEMI-DETACHED FAMILY HOME offers a VERY SPACIOUS and WELL PROPORTIONED LAYOUT of accommodation, including GAS CENTRAL HEATING, PART UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING and comprising: entrance porch, reception hall, spacious lounge with dining area off, garden room, fitted kitchen, THREE GOOD SIZED BEDROOMS, attic and bathroom. Set back beyond the GOOD SIZED TARMAC DRIVEWAY with approach to the GARAGE to the side of the property and enjoying an EXCELLENT SIZED REAR GARDEN. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

Price: £179,950

KINGSWINFORD**16 Cottage Street**

Superbly located within this highly sought after and established location, this EXCEPTIONALLY SPACIOUS, PERIOD, SEMI-DETACHED FAMILY HOME offers an INCREDIBLY GENEROUS LAYOUT of accommodation which retains much of original character and charm and comprising: spacious lounge, inner hall, large separate formal dining room, ground floor w.c., cellar, fitted kitchen with built-in appliances, THREE EXCELLENT SIZED BEDROOMS, spacious bathroom with separate shower, GAS CENTRAL HEATING and PART UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING. The property benefits a PARTIALLY SHELTERED DRIVEWAY which approaches a SUBSTANTIAL WOODEN GARAGE & STORE and to the rear enjoys a VERY LARGE REAR GARDEN. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

Price: £157,950

WOODSETTON**Rosemary Crescent**

A modernised, gas centrally heated & UPVC double glazed traditional semi detached in quiet cul de sac comprising entrance porch, reception hall, store, lounge with bay, transverse 17ft upgraded breakfast kitchen with patio doors through to a large L-shape UPVC double glazed CONSERVATORY, three bedrooms, reappointed bathroom, block paved driveway (possible garage space not verified), large secluded rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £130,000

KINGSWINFORD**41 Hawkeswell Drive**

A DECEPTIVE and DISTINCTIVE MID MEWS which forms part of this highly sought after development upon the fringe of Charterfields offering IMMACULATELY PRESENTED and BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED accommodation with GAS CENTRAL HEATING, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING including: reception hall, ground floor guests cloakroom/w.c., impressive large lounge, full width fitted kitchen with dining area and integrated appliances, TWO GOOD BEDROOMS (master with built-in wardrobes) and lavish bathroom. The property has PARKING FOR TWO VEHICLES and an ATTRACTIVELY LANDSCAPED GOOD SIZED LOW MAINTENANCE REAR GARDEN. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

Price: £129,950

DUDLEY**Colsyll Gardens (Off Westley Street)**

A stylish, recently constructed, gas centrally heated & UPVC double glazed semi detached constructed circa 2007 by Lovell Homes and covered by remainder of NHBC guarantee. Accommodation provides entrance hallway, fitted cloakroom, 17'5" through lounge, CONSERVATORY, well equipped breakfast kitchen with a fine range of units/various appliances, THREE BEDROOMS (one with en suite), bathroom, GARAGE, garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £126,000

WORDSLEY**38 Sandfield Road**

A SUCCESSFULLY EXTENDED and ATTRACTIVELY PRESENTED SEMI-DETACHED FAMILY HOME which is well placed within this popular and established location, convenient for local shops available within the road itself and offering a VERY SPACIOUS and VERY WELL PROPORTIONED LAYOUT of accommodation, including GAS CENTRAL HEATING, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING and comprising: entrance porch, reception hall, well proportioned lounge, separate formal dining room, fitted kitchen, utility room, ground floor w.c., THREE GOOD SIZED BEDROOMS and classic white bathroom. Set back beyond the LARGE TARMAC DRIVEWAY with approach the GARAGE and enjoying a PLEASANT REAR GARDEN with patio / lawn with a PRIVATE REAR ASPECT. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

Price: £124,950

PENSNETT**Avon Close**

This gas centrally heated, modern style semi detached property offers two bedroomed accommodation comprising: inner hall, kitchen, through lounge, two bedrooms, w.c, bathroom, gardens to front and rear, UPVC gutter and fascia, burglar alarm. Realistically priced. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

Offers Around £99,950

WOODSIDE - DUDLEY**Wood Street**

This traditional style, three bedroomed semi detached property requires general updating and is realistically priced. The accommodation comprises: hall, lounge, kitchen, guest wc, three first floor bedrooms, bathroom, gardens to front and rear, cavity wall insulation, and storage heating. Available with NO UPWARD CHAIN. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

Offers Around £89,950

BRIERLEY HILL**Bisel Way**

Ideally suited to the first time buyer and available on a quarter share basis is this one bedroomed first floor flat which has UPVC double glazing and economy seven storage heating, which comprises: lounge, kitchen, bathroom, bedroom, communal garden and parking area. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

Offers Around £18,950 for a 1/4 share

SEDGLEY/WOODSETTON BORDER

RARE OPPORTUNITY ! A significantly enlarged & extremely SPACIOUS, freehold, gas centrally heated & primarily UPVC double glazed FIVE BEDROOM detached family home that has been 'transformed' in recent months to an exemplary standard. Excellently situated in extensive secluded grounds well away from the main Tipton Road (quiet lane approach), accommodation includes imposing 30'10" reception hall, magnificent 32ft, lounge/dining room, enlarged/refitted 19ft kitchen, three bedrooms, reappointed bathroom. To the first floor are two further double bedrooms (one with walk-in wardrobe) & stylish shower room. DOUBLE GARAGE block with workroom/store above, extensive block paved parking, gardens. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £295,000

Tipton Road

A comparatively spacious, freehold, gas centrally heated, & double glazed detached family home at head of short/quiet cul-de-sac with panoramic DISTANT VIEWS in favoured district. Accommodation provides: reception hall, fitted cloakroom, store, 22' through lounge, separate dining room, refitted kitchen (with a stainless steel finished Range). Four bedrooms, reappointed bathroom with a white suite, lengthy garage, delightful secluded rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £229,950

SEDGLEY**Ley Rise, Northway**

A comparatively spacious, freehold, gas centrally heated, & double glazed detached family home at head of short/quiet cul-de-sac with panoramic DISTANT VIEWS in favoured district. Accommodation provides: reception hall, fitted cloakroom, store, 22' through lounge, separate dining room, refitted kitchen (with a stainless steel finished Range). Four bedrooms, reappointed bathroom with a white suite, lengthy garage, delightful secluded rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £229,950

LOWER GORNAL**NEW PRICE****The Straits**

JUST 1 REMAINING - UPVC double glazed, gas centrally heated dormer style detached bungalow envially situated upon a select corner development in favoured location convenient for so many day-to-day facilities including Post Office & doctors surgery, bus route & country park. To be covered by an architect's certificate upon completion the stylish, well equipped lounge/living is to comprise: imposing reception hall, well equipped kitchen with a fine range of integrated appliances, lounge, double bedroom (alternative dining room), bathroom. Staircase up to landing with two double bedrooms (one with en suite shower room), 10ft integral garage, neat landscaped gardens (PART EXCHANGE CONSIDERED). SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers around £219,950

GORNAL/PENSNETT

A MOST IMPRESSIVE and EXPENSIVELY RE-APPOINTED MODERN DETACHED FAMILY HOME which is superbly located within the highly sought after Badgers Rise development, offering an IMMACULATELY PRESENTED and ENLARGED layout of accommodation which includes GAS CENTRAL HEATING, and UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, comprising: reception hall, refitted cloakroom/w.c. off, large attractive lounge with dining area, LARGE CONSERVATORY, luxury refitted kitchen with integrated appliances, separate utility/laundry, THREE GOOD BEDROOMS (bedrooms one and two fitted) and refitted bathroom. The property is set back beyond the BROAD BLOCK PAVED DRIVEWAY with front lawn, GARAGE and a LARGE and BEAUTIFULLY LANDSCAPED REAR GARDEN. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

Price: £204,950 - No Upward Chain

6 Whinberry Rise

A meticulously maintained & exceptionally well presented, freehold, gas centrally heated & UPVC double glazed detached envially situated in favoured cul-de-sac within walking distance of so many amenities/park etc. The delightful accommodation includes: entrance porch, hallway, elegant living room with living flame feature gas fire & walk-in bay, dining room with patio doors to garden, refitted kitchen with a fine range of units, understated store, utility room, fitted cloakroom. Principal bedroom with an extensive range of both built in and fitted units, stylish reappointed/enlarged shower room en suite. Three further bedrooms (all with wardrobes), reappointed bathroom with white suite incorporating 'whirl pool' style bath. Integral garage, block paved foregarden, secluded well tended rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

COSELEY**Flamborough Way**

A meticulously maintained & exceptionally well presented, freehold, gas centrally heated & UPVC double glazed detached envially situated in favoured cul-de-sac within walking distance of so many amenities/park etc. The delightful accommodation includes: entrance porch, hallway, elegant living room with living flame feature gas fire & walk-in bay, dining room with patio doors to garden, refitted kitchen with a fine range of units, understated store, utility room, fitted cloakroom. Principal bedroom with an extensive range of both built in and fitted units, stylish reappointed/enlarged shower room en suite. Three further bedrooms (all with wardrobes), reappointed bathroom with white suite incorporating 'whirl pool' style bath. Integral garage, block paved foregarden, secluded well tended rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £197,500

DUDLEY

An attractively, significantly upgraded & comprehensively maintained, freehold, gas centrally & UPVC double glazed Bryant detached envially situated in favoured neighbourhood comprising entrance porch, reception hall, elegant lounge, fitted cloakroom, spacious L-shape 'hub of the house' dining kitchen with a fine range of integrated appliances, brick/UPVC double glazed CONSERVATORY (with utility section beyond). Three generous bedrooms (principal bedroom with walk-through 'dressing section' & shower room en suite), bathroom, garage, landscaped garden, block paved drive. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £185,950

BEARWOOD**HALESOWEN****SEDGLEY****129 Poplar Road****0121 434 4345****21 Hagley Road****0121 550 3978****2A Dudley Street****01902 880888****Taylor**www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk**6 LOCAL OFFICES WORKING HARDER FOR BUYERS & SELLERS****SEDGLEY****Arcal Street**

Absolutely outstanding, exceptionally well appointed, Freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached home of character that has been "transformed" by present vendors to an exemplary specification. Superb accommodation includes entrance hall, imposing 23'4" reception hall (9'9" ceiling height, sitting room with bay, understorey store, separate dining room with double french doors out to garden, recently refitted breakfast kitchen with a fine range of units & many integrated appliances with utility section beyond and reappointed cloakroom. Two double bedrooms, further three bedrooms, reappointed tiled bathroom with white suite. Traditional covered rear space with velux style skylight. Off road parking to front, exceptionally lengthy, superbly tended/landscaped rear garden with many fine features. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £182,950**KINGSWINFORD****4 Bedrooms****11 Granville Drive**

This SUBSTANTIALLY EXTENDED, EXPENSIVELY IMPROVED AND NOW BEAUTIFULLY PRESENTED FOUR BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE enjoys a most pleasant setting within this noted address, just off tree-lined Standishs Road, to offer: porch extension, hall, DELIGHTFUL LOUNGE with feature fire, SUPERB 17'9" x 9'9" BREAKFAST/DINING KITCHEN with distinct dining area and impressively fitted kitchen with integrated appliances, SEPARATE DINING ROOM, rear hall-with-utility plus cloak/hot/cold, FOUR SPLENDID BEDROOMS (three fitted), spacious en-suite to master plus refitted shower bathroom and GAS CENTRAL HEATING plus uPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, Broad frontage with block paved forecourt and parking. GARAGE and generous rear patio with long secluded lawn. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

Price: £174,950**COSELEY****NEW PRICE****Fozdar Crescent**

A distinctive, highly individual & comparatively spacious, freehold, gas centrally heated & most uPVC double glazed detached that has been conscientiously maintained and much improved by vendors over the years. Set in cul de sac just off Ettinghall Road, the accommodation provides: entrance porch, reception hall, fitted cloakroom/store, transverse lounge, sitting room with patio doors, refitted kitchen, utility room, three bedrooms (principal bedroom with fitted units & a w.c. en suite), spacious bathroom. Extensive secure concrete parking for a number of vehicles and LARGE CONTRACTORS GARAGE (29'6" x 11'5"). SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £164,950**UPPER GORNAL****Goodrich Mews, 'Hedgerows'**

RECENTLY BUILT circa 2008 and covered by NHBC, a particularly SPACIOUS & imaginatively designed, freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed SEMI DETACHED townhouse upon a fine corner plot with DISTANT VIEWS yet within reasonable walking distance of the village and all associated amenities. To the ground floor is a reception hall, cloak cupboard, sitting room, breakfast kitchen with a fine range of units & utility room, separate w.c. To the first floor, transverse lounge, double bedroom 2, bathroom with white suite. To the second floor, two further double bedrooms (principal bedroom with many fitted wardrobes & a shower room en suite). Secluded garden, GARAGE. (PART EXCHANGE CONSIDERED) - against a smaller property in the Gornal/Sedgley areas. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £162,950**LOWER GORNAL****Oakland Drive**

AN EXTENDED, significantly modernised/improved, freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC DOUBLE GLAZED semi detached in popular cul de sac within walking distance of so many amenities & open fields. Accommodation includes double glazed entrance porch, reception hall, superb 28ft through living/dining room (possibilities of sub-division), upgraded kitchen with oven, hob & filler, pantry, three bedrooms (two with wardrobes) bathroom, block paved forecourt/drive to brick garage, rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £159,950**SEDGLEY****Queens Road**

A conscientiously maintained, ENLARGED, gas centrally & primarily uPVC double glazed inter-war semi detached of character in well regarded district within level walking distance of Bull Ring and so many amenities/open fields. The accommodation includes entrance porch, reception hall sitting room with bay, pantry, living room with verandah beyond, 17ft breakfast kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, garage, lengthy secluded rear garden (NB: house has been re-roofed in recent years). SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £152,000**BRIERLEY HILL****Stourbridge Road**

This three bedroomed, traditional styled, gas centrally heated and uPVC double glazed, link detached residence has a versatile layout of accommodation which includes a self contained basement with two rooms. The property comprises: hall, lounge, open plan re-fitted kitchen/diner, transverse conservatory, utility area, ground floor shower room with wc, three bedrooms, re-fitted bathroom, good sized garden to rear with far reaching views, driveway. Viewing is recommended. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265.

Offers Around £149,995**LOWER GORNAL****The Straits**

An absolutely outstanding, exceptionally well presented, and particularly stylish, Freehold, gas centrally heated, & uPVC double glazed semi detached conveniently situated within walking distance of country park, shops, bus route, Doctors, School etc. The superb accommodation includes: enlarged reception hall, enlarged 16'6" sitting room with bay, transverse refitted breakfast kitchen with a fine range of "beech" effect units & various integrated appliances, brick/uPVC double glazed CONSERVATORY. Three bedrooms, reappointed bathroom with white suite. Off road parking to front, secluded rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £149,950**WOODSETTON****Chartwell Close**

This deceptively spacious, significantly improved, uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated semi detached home has been conscientiously maintained by the present owners. Situated in a quiet cul de sac location, the impressive accommodation briefly comprises: entrance porch, hall, transverse lounge/dining room with CONSERVATORY addition, refitted kitchen with a fine range of units, family/playroom, three good bedrooms, refitted bathroom with white suite, driveway & low maintenance rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £149,950**COSELEY****Clifton Street, Hurst Hill**

NO UPWARD CHAIN. This beautifully presented, extended, uPVC or aluminium frame double glazed intermediate townhouse semi detached home has been conscientiously maintained/improved by the current owners and internal inspection is strongly advised to appreciate the standard of accommodation provided. The property briefly comprises: entrance porch, hall, stylish lounge, extended dining kitchen with a fine range of units, utility, CONSERVATORY, three good bedrooms, refitted bathroom with white suite, driveway, garage & a pleasant rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £137,500**LOWER GORNAL****NEW PRICE****Kingham Close**

COMPETITIVELY PRICED, a most conveniently situated & conscientiously maintained, Freehold, uPVC DOUBLE GLAZED & gas centrally heated (recent combi boiler) detached within walking distance of so many amenities. Individually designed accommodation includes: porch, entrance hall, fitted cloakroom, through lounge, breakfast kitchen, pantry. Three bedrooms (two with wardrobes), reappointed bathroom with a fitted white suite. Garage, wider than average secluded rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

PRICE: £135,950**WALL HEATH VILLAGE****CONSERVATORY****14 Blaze Hill Road**

AN EXTREMELY DECEPTIVE, SUCCESSFULLY ENLARGED FAMILY SIZED MID TOWNHOUSE which enjoys a much sought after location upon the fringes of Wall Heath village/countryside offering a SUCCESSFULLY IMPROVED and VERY WELL APPOINTED layout of accommodation which includes GAS CENTRAL HEATING, uPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, comprising: reception hall, large lounge with feature fireplace, SPACIOUS CONSERVATORY EXTENSION, separate dining room, refitted kitchen, separate utility room, THREE EXCELLENT SIZE BEDROOMS and spacious bathroom with shower. The property is set back beyond the front garden and to the rear enjoying an ATTRACTIVELY LAID OUT GARDEN with patio, lawns and decking. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

Price: £134,950**DUDLEY****Dibdale Street**

AN ENLARGED, freehold, uPVC double glazed, gas centrally heated traditional semi detached with potential & tremendous views, porch, imposing reception hall, sitting room with bay, dining with patio doors, pantry, kitchen. Two double bedrooms (both with wardrobes), tiled bathroom & enlarged landing with staircase up to third dormer room. Large drive through CONTRACTORS GARAGE with automated door, garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £131,950**BRIERLEY HILL****Goldencross Way**

This well presented two bedroomed townhouse was built by Messrs Morris Homes and offers gas centrally heated and uPVC double glazed accommodation ideally suited to the first time buyer/young family, with accommodation comprising: hall, guest w.c., lounge, transverse kitchen/diner, two first floor bedrooms, bathroom, garden to rear, allocated parking. Viewing is essential. Available with NO UPWARD CHAIN. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

Offers Around £122,950**BRIERLEY HILL****NEW PRICE****Mill Street**

Conveniently situated for local amenities, this three bedroomed, uPVC double glazed and gas centrally heated semi-detached home may especially be of interest to first time buyers and young families, and is available with no upward chain. The surprisingly spacious accommodation briefly comprises: entrance porch, hall, lounge, kitchen, three good bedrooms, bathroom with separate w.c., driveway, garage and lawned gardens. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265.

Offers Around £119,995**WITHYMOOR VILLAGE****NEW PRICE****Monkswell Close**

This beautifully presented, modern style, uPVC double glazed, two bedroomed property is situated in an established cul de sac, and may particularly appeal to first time buyers. Available with NO UPWARD CHAIN, the accommodation briefly comprises: entrance porch, lounge, open plan kitchen diner, conservatory/garden room, two double bedrooms, bathroom with white suite, driveway, garage, and a low maintenance rear garden. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers Around £119,950**COSELEY****Anvil Crescent**

NO UPWARD CHAIN. Enjoying an open aspect to the front, this beautifully presented, modern style, uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated three bedroom semi detached home is well worthy of internal inspection. The property briefly comprises: entrance hall, stylish lounge, dining room, kitchen with a fine range of units, three bedrooms, refitted bathroom with white suite, driveway & a pleasant rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £119,950**SEDGLEY****Springfield Grove**

Tremendously modernised & improved, Freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed semi detached occupying a wider than average CORNER PLOT with significant potential. This extremely stylish home comprises: imposing reception hall, fitted cloakroom, through lounge/dining room (formerly separate rooms) with double opening French doors to the rear, and a Multi-fuel burner, refitted kitchen with "oak" units. Three bedrooms, stylish reappointed bathroom with a white suite. Parking, substantial work room (potential garage), extensive gardens. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £119,950**WOODSETTON****Sedgley Road**

An attractive, gas centrally heated & mostly uPVC double glazed inter-war semi detached of character with many original period features. Although conscientiously maintained over the years, further modernisation works would be beneficial and the house offers significant potential. Accommodation includes: porch, hall, pantry, lounge with bay, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, potential garage/extension space (subject to regulations), good sized gardens. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £117,500**SEDGLEY****High Holborn**

An intriguing, particularly spacious, gas centrally heated & either uPVC or aluminium frame double glazed intermediate townhouse believed to be amongst some of the oldest dwellings in Sedgley with many period features that has been carefully updated in recent years. Conveniently situated within level walking distance of the Bull Ring, the accommodation includes imposing reception hall, separate dining room, useful cellar, transverse living room, kitchen, lobby, reappointed bathroom with stylish white suite & a shower. THREE BEDROOMS, garden with REAR VEHICULAR ACCESS (from Gate Street). SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £115,950**DUDLEY****NEW PRICE****Elm Green, Old Park Farm**

A particularly SPACIOUS, significantly modernised & improved, freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached intermediate "family home" conveniently situated in relatively quiet neighbourhood. Excellent accommodation includes reception hall, tiled shower room, lounge, sitting room, large 18ft "cottage style" breakfast kitchen acting as the "hub" of the house with numerous units and patio doors out to the garden, FOUR BEDROOMS, upgraded bathroom, brick/block paved forecourt, neat rear garden and POTENTIAL GARAGE (subject to regulations). SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £104,950**DUDLEY****Dibdale Road**

Tremendously modernised & improved, Freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached of traditional character with many fine period features (fifty ceilings, and stripped original paneled doors), conveniently situated with panoramic distant views. Superb accommodation includes: elegant lounge with living flame feature gas fire, stone, separate dining room, kitchen. Two double bedrooms, reappointed bathroom with a white suite, lengthy GATED parking to the side, and a neat "low maintenance" garden with outbuildings and shed. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £104,950**RUSSELLS HALL****NEW PRICE****Middlepark Road**

This well presented modern style three bedroomed semi-detached home is situated in a popular residential location, and may be of particular interest to first time buyers or young families. The property has both uPVC double glazing and a gas central heating system, and briefly comprises: entrance hall, L shaped lounge and dining area, re-fitted kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom with corner bath, driveway providing ample off-street parking, garage, and low maintenance garden to rear. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

Offers Around £102,500**COSELEY****Bank Street**

A tremendously modernised, freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC DOUBLE GLAZED traditional intermediate terrace in superb order. Stylish accommodation includes lounge, refitted breakfast kitchen with a fine range of units, two good bedrooms, bathroom with white contemporary suite, neat garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £93,500**COSELEY****NEW PRICE****Corfe Road, Hurst Hill**

NO UPWARD CHAIN. AN EXTENDED, freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed with potential. Paperwork available confirming remedial drainage works just completed under insurer's supervision. Set in cul de sac the accommodation provides: entrance porch, reception hall, lounge with bay understairs w.c., dining room, extended kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, off road parking to front & there is a lengthy rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £89,950

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BRIERLEY HILL GOLDEN CROSS WAY

This delightfully presented Modern 3 Bedroom End Town house in this popular and very convenient development and provides gas centrally heated and UPVC double glazed accommodation ideal for the young family and comprises:- Hall, Downstairs W.C., Spacious Lounge, Separate Dining Area, Attractive Modern Kitchen with Built in Oven and hob, 3 Good Bedrooms (Master with en-suite Shower Room Off), Fitted House Bathroom, Side Garage, Pleasant Landscaped Rear Gardens with Southernly Facing Aspect and Driveway to Front.

Offers around £144,950



QUARRY BANK EAST STREET

This superbly presented, considerably improved and stylishly decorated 2 Bedroom Detached with gas centrally heated and mostly UPVC double glazed accommodation ideal for the discerning young family or professional couple and enjoys a pleasant position in this respected and popular address. Attractive Lounge, Separate Dining Room, Refitted kitchen with built in oven and hob, Laundry/Utility, Downstairs W.C., 2 Good Bedrooms, Useful Loft and Large Rear Gardens with pleasant sunny outlook.

Offers around £134,950



BRIERLEY HILL ULLSWATER RISE

This superbly presented, improved Modern 2 Bedroom Link Detached provides spacious gas centrally heated and UPVC double glazed, ideal for the discerning young family or professional couple in this popular cul-de-sac. Porch, Reception Hall, Stylish Lounge, Attractively Refitted Kitchen opening to Conservatory/Dining Area, 2 Good Bedrooms, attractively fitted Bathroom with shower, larger than average Side Garage, pleasant low maintenance Rear Gardens and Driveway for 4 cars to the front.

Offers around £129,950



QUARRY BANK CHARLES ROAD

This well presented 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached residence provides spacious gas centrally heated and mostly UPVC double glazed accommodation, ideal for the young family in this ever popular address and is available at a keen asking price for early sale with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Briefly comprises:- Porch, Hall, Lounge, Separate Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, 3 Good Bedrooms, Refitted Shower/Wet Room and pleasant good sized landscaped Rear Gardens with southernly facing aspect.

Offers around £99,950



QUARRY BANK COPPICE LANE

A superbly presented, considerably improved Traditional 3 Bedroom Detached providing outstanding gas centrally heated and UPVC double glazed family accommodation conveniently positioned close to Merry Hill. Hall, Attractive Lounge, Separate Dining Room opening to Superb Large Conservatory, Attractively Fitted Kitchen, 3 Good Bedrooms (two with fitted wardrobes), Spacious Bathroom with corner bath, Side Garage (recently converted to provide Utility/Store and Office/Study), Delightful Large mature Landscaped Rear Gardens with southernly facing aspect and Driveway for 2 cars.

Offers around £184,950



QUARRY BANK BOWER LANE

This attractively presented, much improved and extended traditional 4 Bedroom Semi-Detached residence is pleasantly situated in a corner position in this respected and convenient address and provides spacious gas centrally heated and UPVC double glazed family accommodation to include:- Hall, Attractive Lounge, Separate Dining Room, L-shaped kitchen with Laundry/Utility Area and Downstairs W.C. off, 4 Good Bedrooms, Refitted House Bathroom, Pleasant Landscaped Rear Gardens with Southernly facing aspect and Driveway for 2 cars to the front.

Offers around £178,950



QUARRY BANK LAWNSDOWN ROAD

This attractively presented 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached residence provides spacious extended gas centrally heated and UPVC double glazed family accommodation pleasantly situated in this ever popular address. Briefly comprises:- Hall, Lounge, Separate Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, 3 Good Bedrooms, Fitted Bathroom and Shower, Larger than average Side Garage, Pleasant enclosed Rear Gardens and block paved Driveway to front.

Offers around £130,000



BRIERLEY HILL STOURBRIDGE ROAD

This attractive, Extended Traditional 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached provides spacious gas centrally heated and UPVC double glazed family accommodation pleasantly situated in this ever popular and convenient address and briefly comprises:- Hall, Lounge, Separate Dining Room, Superb refitted Extended Kitchen with built in oven and hob and appliances, Study, 3 Good Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Superb Large landscaped Rear Gardens with impressive views and Block Paved Driveway for 2/3 cars to front.

Offers around £119,950



BRIERLEY HILL BENT STREET

5% DEPOSIT PAID BY VENDOR! This superbly and stylishly refurbished 3 Bedroom Intermediate Terrace provides generously proportioned gas centrally heated and UPVC double glazed accommodation ideal for the discerning First Time Buyer or young family and is pleasantly situated in this mature and very convenient address. Available with NO UPWARD CHAIN and briefly comprises:- Spacious Lounge, Separate Dining Room, Superb Large refitted Kitchen with built in oven and hob, Downstairs W.C., 3 Good Bedrooms (Master with Shower En-Suite off), fitted House Bathroom and enclosed Rear Garden.

Offers around £109,950



BRIERLEY HILL SPRINGFIELD ROAD

This attractively presented much improved 3 Bedroom Semi Detached residence provides spacious gas centrally heated and UPVC double glazed accommodation in this very convenient address and represents an excellent opportunity for the discerning young family. Briefly comprises:- Hall, Lounge, Large Dining Kitchen, Double Glazed Conservatory, Utility Room, 3 good sized Bedrooms, fitted Bathroom with shower, splendid good sized mature rear Garden, 20ft side Garage and driveway to front.

Offers around £107,950



BRIERLEY HILL WESTWOOD STREET

An attractively presented much improved 2 Bedroom Semi-Detached residence providing spacious gas centrally heated and part UPVC double glazed accommodation ideal for the discerning young family or First Time Buyer and is available with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Viewing highly recommended with:- Porch, Hall, attractive Lounge, large fitted Dining Kitchen with built-in oven and hob, large double glazed Conservatory, 2 good Bedrooms (master with fitted wardrobes), fitted Bathroom with shower, large easy to maintain rear Garden and driveway to front with feature wrought iron gates.

Offers around £107,500



PENSNETT SWAN STREET

This attractively presented considerably extended 3 bedroom Semi-Detached provides extremely deceptive gas centrally heated and mostly UPVC double glazed family accommodation pleasantly situated with private outlook in the popular and convenient cul-de-sac. Briefly comprises:- Spacious Lounge, Large L-shaped Kitchen with adjoining Dining area, Downstairs W.C., 3 Excellent Bedrooms (master with fitted wardrobes), Attractively Fitted Bathroom with Shower, and Enclosed Rear Garden.

Offers around £105,950



BRIERLEY HILL BRYCE ROAD

Most pleasantly situated in this popular address, this 2 bedroom Semi-Detached residence provides deceptively spacious gas centrally heated and UPVC double glazed accommodation ideal for the First Time Buyer or young family and briefly comprises:- Hall, Lounge, Refitted Kitchen with oven and hob, Downstairs W.C., 2 Good Sized Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage (Timber), and Long Landscaped Rear Gardens with pleasant westerly aspect which are not overlooked from the rear. NO UPWARD CHAIN.

Offers around £94,950



BRIERLEY HILL WILLIAM STREET

This attractively presented, much improved and extended 2 bedroom Intermediate Terrace provides deceptively spacious gas centrally heated and UPVC double glazed accommodation ideal for the discerning young family or First Time Buyer in this popular, convenient and established address. Briefly comprises:- Spacious extended Lounge, separate Dining Room, fitted Kitchen, 2 double Bedrooms, attractively fitted Bathroom with shower and pleasant long landscaped rear gardens extending to over 100ft.

Offers around £87,950



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£75,000 **NEW**

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Tansley Hill Avenue, Dudley



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Offers Over £200,000

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Julie Croft, Bilston



Offers Over £140,000

Detached three bedroom property comprising downstairs wc, lounge, kitchen/diner, bathroom, front and rear gardens, driveway and garage. NO UPWARD CHAIN

Belvoir Close, Dudley



Offers Over £160,000

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£64,950 **NEW**

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Oak Road, Dudley



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A Charter Standard
Community Club.
Players wanted to add to our
open age existing squad.

Please contact:
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40 - 50 for friendship maybe
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All coaches are CRB checked
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BMW 120D SPORT 2007, 51K, BMW fsh, 1 lady owner, MoT April, excellent condition throughout, heated leather seats, 11,000, bi-xenons, new tyres, HPI clear. £11,500 one for a quick sale. 07900 974706.

JOAN ELIZABETH OWEN (Deceased) Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 17 Beaumont Close, Lark View, Dudley West Midlands DY1 3LX who died on 10/01/2011, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 29/04/2011, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice. TALBOTS SOLICITORS 63 Market Street, Stourbridge B19 1AQ 7310026

JOHN BLOTT (Deceased) Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 27 Kinsley Crescent, Oldbury B69 1DJ, who died on 11/11/2010, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned on or before 29/04/2011, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice. NORTHWOOD BANKS & CO 1600 County Road, Birmingham B26 1LA 7310788

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RENAULT LAGUNA INTALIA 1.9 DCI Sport touring estate, 120bhp, 53 reg, black, full leather, full electric pack, sat nav, air con, panoramic sunroof, climate control etc. MoT Dec, tax July, good condition, new cam belt, 50mpg. £2,150. 01562 882848 or 07833 728812.

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RENAULT MEGANE Dynamique Diesel, 55 reg, 5-dr, long MoT. Excellent condition. £2,600. 07759 737894.

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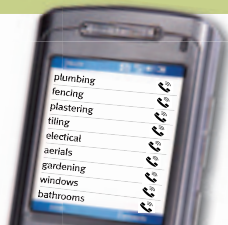
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SPORT

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Sparkys produce power

WITH the top two places already sorted in the Wolverhampton Monday six-a-side league it was left to Sparkys R Us, who finished bottom, to take the spotlight as Nathan Ainge led them to a 6-3 dismissal of champions England Lions.

Swan Village Crew despatched Only Here For The Beer 13-3 in the Tuesday Wolverhampton clash, while just down the road in the Brierley Hill Monday it was Tipton Spurs who emerged as the biggest winners of the day, Josh Taylor making sure they saw off Young Guns 6-1.

Pink Gunners are yet to drop a point in division one, and don't look likely to as Lee Hall led them home 5-0 against Clinically Insane.

Anyone who wants to join the leagues in Wolverhampton or Brierley Hill should ring 0845 230 2340 or visit www.leisureleagues.net

County debut for club

OUR Lady of Lourdes Bowling Club in Kingswinford has played its first county match.

Members represented Midlands County against Worcestershire in the indoor clash.

Worcestershire emerged triumphant but there were three wins for Midlands County.

Number one seed Brian Sable, aged 75, beat young star Jamie Watkiss 14-7 and partnered John Siviter to a 12-8 success in the doubles.

June Morris and David Powell won the other doubles 11-6.

Our Lady of Lourdes host Gilt Edge of Stourport at Our Lady of Lourdes Church Hall, Kingswinford, on Friday, March 11.

Run and swim this Sunday

AN ANNUAL biathlon is being held in Halesowen this Sunday (February 20) from 8-11am.

Aquathon involves a 400-metre swim at Halesowen Leisure Centre, followed by a 5km run from the centre to The Grange and beyond.

Varying distances are being held for youngsters aged eight to 19.

Call event organiser John Batchelor on 07807 338687 for details.



Tui Asi Pito gets to grips with Old Halesonians scrum-half Rhys Holyman



Stefan Shillingford dives over in the corner for the fifth try

Nineteen on the trot as DK find their best form

A COMPREHENSIVE victory at Old Halesonians stretched Dudley Kingswinford's record-breaking run to 19 consecutive league wins.

The league leaders had endured a difficult couple of weeks, edging two tight games, but were back on top form against a side whose previous heaviest defeat this season was by an 11-point margin.

With the injured Ian Langford missing, out came Jamie Ramsey into the back row, enabling skipper Pete Knight to return to the flank.

The opening exchanges were fairly even as the two sides probed warily for openings, but it was DK that drew first blood.

Jon Higgins broke in midfield to feed Tom Weaver who then gave an inside pass to full-back Matt Farrington for an excellent ninth-minute try, converted by Gareth Bown.

The home side were striving hard to redress the balance but DK

Old Halesonians 5 Dudley Kingswinford 41

matched them all the way and were looking ominously strong up front, with Tui Asi Pito in particular causing havoc.

DK's pack produced a second try after 34 minutes when they shoved Old Halesonians off their own scrum ball.

Ramsey tore into the 22 before setting up a sweeping three-quarter move that saw Farrington score an unconverted try on the overlap.

After the break Stefan Shillingford looked certain to score when following up a kick through

the Old Halesonians cover, but was baulked by home full-back Chris Hooper who received a yellow card.

DK took full advantage when Jon Higgins sent Bown in for an unconverted try on 50 minutes to make it 17-0.

Five minutes later DK gained a bonus point when tremendous breaks through the middle from Ramsey and the irrepressible Tui Asi Pito left Thorp with the ball to barrel over from 10 metres out, Bown converting.

Tom Weaver saw a try disallowed but rampant DK kept up their momentum and extended their lead to 29-0 when Shillingford raced in down the right flank.

Defenders

Jak Davis was next on the scoresheet, rounding a couple of defenders for a fine winger's try which was converted by Bown for 36-0.

Replacement back Mike Jones powered in for an unconverted try in the corner with eight minutes to go.

The home side had the last word with a very good consolation try on 76 minutes through Spencer Sutherland.

DK host Whitchurch this Saturday at Heathbrook, with kick-off at 2.30pm.



Full-back Matt Farrington away for the first try



There's no holding Stefan Thorp as he closes in on the fourth try. Pictures: Peter Stinton

Gordon threat to hang up the gloves

BRIERLEY Hill's Martin Gordon has vowed his next West Midlands derby will be his last if he loses to Danny Clews at Walsall Town Hall later this month.

Gordon has been pitted against a fellow West Midlander in seven of his 13 fights so far, but says he will retire if hometown hero Clews wins on February 26.

There is no more scope for failure if Gordon is to arrest a slide that has seen him lose eight, draw three and win just two since turning professional in October 2006.

But the 28-year-old could yet turn it around having mapped out a plan of Clews and a rematch with Kristian Laight, who he beat by a point in 2009, before targeting Midlands welterweight champion Sean McKervy.

Twice Gordon has unsuccessfully fought for a Masters title but he fancies his chances against McKervy, having beaten him three times as an amateur with Lions ABC in Dudley.

Gloves

However, should Clews, who has had just one pro fight, hand him a ninth defeat, Gordon will hang up his gloves.

He said: "If I am losing to a raw novice then I shouldn't be in the ring, to be honest. I am not bothered how I do it, a win is a win to me."

"I know I am better than my record suggests. I just want to win something and, at 28, it's do-or-die."

Meanwhile, Sedgley's Tom Bowen is confident of lasting the distance on the same bill.

The 21-year-old will face veteran Matt Seawright.

Bowen is a keen runner and regularly takes part in the Kinver Rotary Action Heart 10km road race, where he has finished as high as sixth.

He would probably have run the next Action Heart race but, unfortunately for him, it's the day after the show!

He said: "I think I will need a rest after my fight! I do it to make my training for boxing more interesting but I enjoy it."

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sport

Happy Stour's second double

Stourbridge 2 Cirencester 1
FIRST-HALF goals from Leon Broadhurst and Drew Canavan enabled the Glassboys to record their second league double of the season on a day when both sides blew opportunities from the penalty spot.

Stourbridge pushed in the opening minutes with Nathan Bennett having a shot blocked and Ryan Rowe subsequently firing into the side-netting.

Cirencester replied and Zac Westlake might have done better with a header that provided an easy save for Lewis Solly.

They threatened again on 11 minutes as Tom Etheridge delivered a long throw-in from the right into the penalty area where Jody Bevan could only direct a header wide.

Rebound

The Glassboys hit back three minutes later as Rowe found Sam Rock whose low shot was blocked by the legs of Matt Bulman with Rock hitting the rebound wide.

On 33 minutes Cirencester were awarded a penalty after Rob Hoskin was tripped by Paul McCone but Solly went the right way to parry Mark Draycott's spot-kick and Sean Wood screwed the rebound past the post.

Stourbridge made the most of their let-off by grabbing the lead within a couple of minutes.

Paul Lloyd and Rowe combined to set up Broadhurst to stroke a side-foot shot just inside Bulman's right-hand post.

It got even better for the hosts on the stroke of half-time when Rowe rolled the ball across to Canavan who scored.

Cirencester got one back in the 49th minute. Matt Sycum tucking the ball away. With three minutes left Rowe was brought down by Tomkins only for Billingham to put his spot-kick too high.

Girls fight back for draw

Withymoor Colts 3 Sedgley Girls 3
SEDGLEY took the lead with a solo effort from Phoenix Coxon for Withymoor to storm back and lead 3-1 at half-time.

Jessica Taylor, on her debut for Sedgley, reduced the arrears after the break from six yards out.

Both teams had chances but it was Sedgley who grabbed a draw when Bethany Male notched a spectacular left-footed effort.

Great speedway names will do battle again

TWO of speedway's greatest names will do battle in this year's National League Knockout Cup after Dudley Heathens were paired with Belle Vue Colts in round one.

The Manchester side were accepted into the league last week and will race their home meetings at Kirkmanshulme Lane on Mondays and Wednesdays,

working around their senior side's Elite League schedule.

It's a tasty cup draw for both clubs with bumper crowds expected for both legs on dates yet to be agreed.

Heathens chairman Nigel Pearson said: "Belle Vue speedway is one of the most famous names in the sport's history and their Colts

team have provided many fine riders in years gone by.

"I think it's brilliant for the sport that the Belle Vue management are running a National League side in tandem with their Elite League operation.

"I'm sure there will be plenty of Heathens fans who will be wanting to make the trip to Manchester."

Dudley have announced their first two home fixtures. The Heathens, who will stage their home matches on Tuesdays at Wolverhampton's Monmore Green circuit, will open on April 12 with a clash against the USA Tourists. The following week they host Euxton in the first leg of the National Shield, with the return on April 24.

ROBINS RELIANT ON DARBY GOAL

Wellington 0 Dudley Town 1

DUDLEY TOWN'S revitalisation under Neil Perks continued with an impressive 1-0 win at Wellington.

The result marked The Robins' first clean sheet on the road since their 6-0 victory at Wolverhampton Casuals last April and secured the team's mid-table position.

Manager Perks, rocked by the news of captain Ricky Martin's decision to leave the club, was left with a selection headache compounded by the unavailability of several first team players.

However, he was buoyed by the return of defender George Reeves and also included new signing Danny Bell, from Bustleholme, in the starting XI.

The struggling hosts were without a home victory since September but they forged the game's first chance when Steve Brotherhood blasted wide when through on goal.

Dudley thanks partly to the lively Bell, got themselves more and more into the game as the half progressed.

He linked up with Ricki Dudley in the 22nd minute to set up Alex Perry, but the young centre-forward could only place the ball over the crossbar.

Exchanges

Perry could have made amends for his miss soon after when he released James Darby, but some solid defending from Craig Green and Dave Withers stopped the midfielder in his tracks.

The Robins looked the better side in the opening exchanges of the second half and Bell again proved dangerous with a fine cross that just evaded Ricki Dudley.

On 62 minutes the Robins broke the deadlock, with Ricki Dudley's pinpoint cross finding Darby who coolly converted past Matt Eden.

Soaked

Dudley's defence soaked up any pressure Wellington threw at them and the addition of the experienced Chris Jones certainly helped their cause.

The home side did have the ball in the net when Matt Williams placed the ball beyond Rodgers but his effort was ruled out for offside.

With just seconds to go a Rodgers parry fell right at the feet of Williams, only for a solid tackle from Whitley to prevent an equaliser.

Scots wha hae despite the Saxon resistance

London Scottish 55 Stourbridge Saxons 13
STOURBRIDGE Saxons fell to a heavy defeat against fully-professional, promotion-chasing London Scottish, despite a battling first half display.

Scottish's front row power produced two pushover tries, plus a penalty try, while speedy winger David Howells claimed a hat-trick.

But there was much for Stourbridge to enjoy before the break as excellent driving lineouts and some powerful thrusts from centre Charlie Hayter kept them in contention at 13-15.

But three home tactical changes at the break, plus two yellow cards for the Saxons soon after the restart, enabled former Coventry and Worcester fly half Jamie Brown to steer the Exiles to a 16th consecutive win, writes Paul Smith.

Brown and Stour's Chris Surman swapped first quarter penalties, before Howells cut inside to open his account.

But Hayter read a Scottish three-quarter movement superbly, to scorch 70 metres under the posts for an excellent interception try, converted by Surman.

Soden touched down after a powerful pushover and Surman's second penalty followed another strong Hayter break before former Saxon Roman Piotrowski ended his first half a minute early when referee Richard Kelly took exception to his restart challenge.

With flanker Rupert Cooper despatched to the bin early in the second period for a "red zone" infringement, Soden took his season's tally to eight with another scrum pushover.

Worse followed with Joe Baker joining his skipper in the bin before a penalty try.

Scottish's backs then needed no second invitation against the 13 men.



Winger Ashley Smith in the thick of things on debut. Picture: Gerry Sexton

Mitchell is positive about team's future

DESPITE his injury-hit side being swamped by London Scottish's brilliant second half display, Stourbridge Saxons' director of rugby Neil Mitchell remains upbeat about his young team.

The Saxons conceded 40 unanswered post-interval points as a Scottish side liberally sprinkled with former Premiership players and internationals took full advantage of playing 20 post-interval minutes against 14 men, following the sin-binnings of Rupert Cooper and Joe Baker.

However, Mitchell now sees consecutive home games against Rosslyn Park and Cinderford as a good opportunity for the Saxons to stake their claim for a top six finish in National One.

Mitchell says: "We competed well for a half against Scottish, to only trail by two points at the interval, but they really put us to the sword after the sin binnings."

"They are a very professional outfit both on and off the field, and we have some lessons to learn in that respect."

"We are a young side, with players

who are on the way up, and I have no doubt there is a good side within the current Saxons squad."

"The two young lads, Sam Baker and Ashley Smith, who both made their first starts on the wing at Scottish, did very well. They made their tackles, and stood up to be counted."

"We now need to capitalise on having home games against Rosslyn Park, who we beat away earlier in the season, through a good second-half comeback, and Cinderford. We need to get a minimum of eight points from these games, and ideally the full 10."

Depth

"Ben Hughes should be fit for Saturday, and Tim Pickard and Ali Bressington will both also be available. The other longer-term injuries will not impact on how we play, as we now have some good strength in depth."

"Our lineup went well at Scottish, but our scrum let us down again, and sorting this out ahead of next week is really imperative."

"The front row did 100 hits in training on Tuesday."

Morgan hits four in big victory

Gornal Athletic 5 Bromyard Town 0

A FOUR-STAR performance from Gornal hitman Cameron Morgan helped the home side to a comfortable victory against struggling Bromyard.

Gornal's fifth win on the bounce in all competitions keeps them in the chasing pack with AFC Wulfs and Bustleholme behind league leaders Tividale.

The win for Ian Rowe's side looked likely as early as the second minute when Dave Meese kept up his rich vein of form to head Gornal into a lead they never looked like relinquishing.

Cameron Morgan notched the first of his four goals on 18 minutes with a tap in and doubled his tally on 24 minutes with a header to put Gornal three to the good.

Acrobatic

In between Cameron's goals, Jake Morgan controlled a high ball well and set up an acrobatic volleying opportunity which was well handled by Bromyard keeper Luke James.

While the Peacocks threatened to run riot, the visitors made a credible job of battling after the early setbacks.

Indeed, over an hour of play passed between the third and fourth goals with Bromyard keeper James performing miracles between the sticks.

On 58 minutes Meese threaded a pass through to Cameron Morgan but James pulled off a superb one-on-one save and then made a fine stop to repel Chris Bladen five minutes later.

When James denied Meese his second on 70 minutes with yet another excellent stop, it seemed the scoreline was destined to stay at three.

But Gornal's persistence paid off in the dying minutes when Cameron punished a tiring defence to claim his hat-trick before, in stoppage time, he slotted home his fourth.

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Covering the Black Country and wider West Midlands, Business Skills was set up in 2007 to focus on providing training for local businesses and employers and now works with over 1,000 employers in the region including Carillion, the British Army, Westfield and West Midlands Police and was the first Black Country college to be awarded the Training Quality Standard. Employing 50 people based in Kidderminster, there's a professional sales team on hand to give advice and guidance on a wide range of courses - some of which are still funded!

Kim Babb, Director at Business Skills, said: "We are a Black Country Chamber Patron and have worked very successfully with lots of local and national employers including Mansell, Debenhams, Ryman, Fitness First, The Village Hotels, Carillion, Worcester Bosch and Calor Gas. Investing in training both for current and future employees - especially in apprenticeships - is vital to the success of any organisation."

Book and pay for training courses online on the Business Skills website - www.bskills.org and follow us on Twitter to be the first to get updates on special offers and discounts. Courses on offer range from Leadership & Management, IT, Retail, Health & Safety through to Gas & Electric, Construction, Plumbing and Environmental Technologies.



Energy Training Centre

Don't waste your energy looking for gas, electrical and plumbing training anywhere else! Based in Ham Lane, Kingswinford, Business Skills' Energy Training Centre is one of the region's leading gas, electrical, plumbing and renewable technologies training and assessment centres in the West Midlands.

The centre, which is approved by NICEIC, NET, BPEC, CITB Construction Skills and City & Guilds, is equipped with state of the art training and assessment facilities to offer realistic working environments for all trades.

The team at the Energy Training Centre has over 300 years of collective experience behind them so can offer you skills gained over a number of years and across a wide range of assessment and qualifications.

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Business Skills has a recently refurbished training centre in Kidderminster offering training and conference rooms for hire. We have a range of facilities including free Wi-Fi throughout the building, vending machine refreshments and comfortable break out spaces as well as free parking.

In terms of Gas Training - we wrote the book. One member of staff, John Hazlehurst, has re-written and edited the famous Tolley series of books and is written proof that you won't get better gas training anywhere in the region!

John, from Wombourne, has researched and updated Volume 1 - Tolley's Basic Science & Practice of Gas Service, Volume 2 - Domestic Gas Installation Practice and Volume 3 - Tolley's Industrial & Commercial Gas and Installation Practice.

He said: "The books are really useful for people new to the gas industry as they cover the whole job competencies, including the wider health and safety issues and customer service not just the technical aspects. They are also a valuable source of reference to people teaching gas related courses."

You can now book and pay online. For information on all courses please contact us:
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Apprentices go further



The Energy Training Centre recently won a contract to train apprentices from all over the country on behalf of Worcester Bosch - the market leader in domestic heating and hot water systems.

Fifteen apprentices were chosen from a short list of over 300, with Stourbridge College driving forward the interview process by putting the candidates through key skills and practical assessments. All fifteen are now studying Level 3 Gas Maintenance at the Energy Training Centre in Kingswinford.

The apprentices are aged between 18 and 33, proving that apprenticeships can cover a range of age groups, not just school leavers - and they can suit both men and women!



Jane Davenport, attends one of the classroom based workshops.

JANE RE-IGNITES HER CAREER IN THE GAS INDUSTRY

Jane Davenport, 33, re-ignited her career when she switched from electric to gas after being made redundant. She started in the industry as a gas apprentice, but was made redundant when the economy started to flounder a few years ago. She was transferred to electric meter servicing but was so fired up about a career in gas she continued to look for ways to get back into the industry.

She said: "I didn't enjoy electric meter servicing as much but knew I would struggle to finance extra gas training myself. When the Worcester Bosch apprenticeship scheme came up I saw it as an excellent opportunity to work and train with a large reputable company. Apprenticeships are a great way to learn, not only do our course fees get paid, we get paid to learn which is a bonus!"

When she's qualified as a Service and Breakdown Engineer she will relocate to Mid Wales. The Level 3 Gas Maintenance course involves theory work, classroom based workshops and apprentices shadow a qualified engineer to learn the job hands on.

Employer gets fired up about our gas training



Don't take our word for it. The Energy Training Centre has trained 100s of people over the last year, including apprentices for Connaught's, FJ Jones, Dudley, JTL, Mansell and Sandwell MBC as well as a large number of independent and small business owners. In the past, our customers have travelled from as far afield as Carlisle and Exeter for training.

Kevin Stevens, Director at the Energy Training Centre, said: "We have recently won a contract to deliver the gas training apprentice scheme for Worcester Bosch and we have just begun to work with Calor Gas by offering additional skills training for their newly qualified apprentices. Employer links are vital for apprenticeship training and it's our aim to continue to build and strengthen our relationships for the benefit of the industry as a whole."

Gary Peckham, Business Development Manager for Calor Gas, said: "Our apprentices are currently topping up their apprenticeship skills at the Energy Training Centre and I'm really impressed with both the facilities and the standard of training available at the centre. We currently have eight qualified apprentices brushing up on their gas skills in Kingswinford which will add significantly to their level of knowledge and expertise."

Our facilities

The Energy Training Centre is based in Ham Lane, Kingswinford in the Black Country and we offer free parking, refreshments and a break out area for relaxation in between classes.

Electricians get switched on



Electrical Installation Level 3 apprentice, Thomas Jennings, took third place at the regional JTL Apprenticeship Training Awards held at Aston Villa Football Club recently for achieving a high standard of academic and technical competence within the electrical profession. Thomas started as a Level 1 apprentice with Stourbridge College and has shown that he's a bright spark! Andrew Ashford, another apprentice, was also nominated.

JTL's Regional Manager, Kevin Newell, said: "The JTL Regional Awards celebrate the achievements of JTL apprentices, their colleges and employers who are providing vital skills for the future despite the difficult economic climate. JTL has a long standing partnership with Stourbridge College and it's a great tribute to them that Thomas and Andrew, also nominated, are in the top two per cent of JTL apprentices in England and Wales."



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Kim Babb, Director at Business Skills, said: "We offer customers personalised guidance to develop and enhance manageable health & safety systems with measurable progress through practical and cost effective management solutions. We support you with all your workplace situations through consultancy, training days and telephone advice."

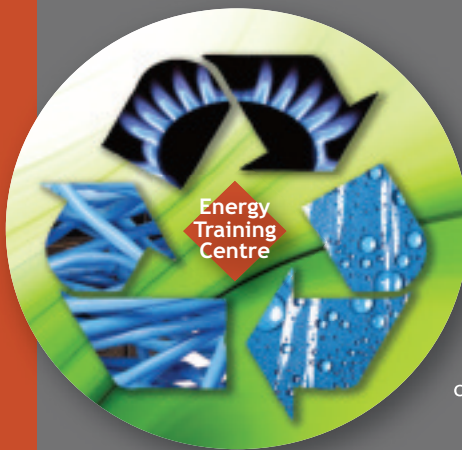
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The Energy Training Centre has been given the green light for Environmental Technology Training

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The Energy Training Centre has been selected to lead on environmental training for the West Midlands. The successful bid for approval as a founder regional hub of the National Skills Academy for Environmental Technologies - accredited by SummitSkills, the Sector Skills Council for Building Services.

Lynette Cutting, Principal of Stourbridge College and Business Skills' Energy Training Centre, said: "This is great news for the Black Country. Being nationally recognised for cutting edge training in new technologies shows how we are contributing to environmental challenges and also shows how responsive we are to emerging employer skills needs."

The Energy Training Centre will begin by offering an environmental technologies awareness course before starting to deliver a range of courses including Solar Photovoltaic, Solar Thermal, Rain Water Harvesting and Ground and Air Source Heat Pumps.

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